

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOI/PA  
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FOI/PA# 1228215-0

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FBI

## TRANSMIT VIA:

☐ Teletype  
☐ Facsimile  
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## PRECEDENCE:

☐ Immediate  
☐ Priority  
☐ Routine

## CLASSIFICATION:

☐ TOP SECRET  
☐ SECRET  
☐ CONFIDENTIAL  
☐ UNCLAS E F T O  
☐ UNCLAS

Date 3/15/85

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI  
 ATTN: CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION  
 CIVIL RIGHTS UNIT

FROM: SAC, SALT LAKE CITY (44B-674) (RUC)

LEROY S. JOHNSON;  
 ET AL;  
 CIVIL RIGHTS;  
 OO: Phoenix

Re Salt Lake City airtel and LHM dated 3/6/85.

Enclosed for the Bureau are five copies, and for Phoenix one copy of an LHM dated 3/15/85.

Salt Lake City is conducting no additional investigation unless specifically requested by CRD, U. S. Department of Justice.

DE-152

V-129

2 - Bureau (Enc. 5)  
 2 - Phoenix (Enc. 1)  
 1 - Salt Lake City  
 VDK:ybe  
 (5)

ENCLOSURE

1 CRD, 1 CRU

ATTN:

070 (D)

INIT:

DATE: 3-29-85  
 AAK:km

12 MAR 20 1985

Approved: JK/ma

Transmitted

(Number)

(Time)

Per

1 AUG 2 1985

b6  
b7C



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

Room 3203 Federal Building  
125 South State Street  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84138

March 15, 1985

LEROY S. JOHNSON;  
RULON T. JEFFS;  
UNKNOWN SUBJECTS;

- VICTIM/COMPLAINANT;  
- VICTIM/COMPLAINANT;  
VICTIM/COMPLAINANT;  
- VICTIM/COMPLAINANT;  
- VICTIM/COMPLAINANT;  
- VICTIM/COMPLAINANT;

UNKNOWN VICTIMS  
CIVIL RIGHTS

b6  
b7C

On March 11, 1985, the following letter and attached documents were received at the Salt Lake City Office of the FBI:

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.



44-102945-1  
ENCLOSURE



U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney  
District of Utah

Post Office Box 2750  
350 South Main  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84110

801/524-5682  
FTS/588-5682

March 8, 1985

Dave Kohl  
Assistant Special Agent in Charge  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
3203 Federal Building  
125 South State Street  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84138

Re: Complaint of [redacted] et al.

Dear Dave:

Enclosed is additional material to be included with your file  
in the above matter.

Sincerely yours,

  
BRENT D. WARD  
United States Attorney

Enclosure

cc: [redacted]

b6  
b7C

March 1, 1985

Guest Editorial

Volume 23, Number 1 of the Twin City Courier dated January 24, 1985 reported:

"Blessings lost sight of in these days has caused some to become embittered against the hands through which our community's solidarity has been made; and, like all others who have forsaken faith, they have resorted to the outside enemy help, for hoped for comfort."

-----  
Maybe some of the "blessings lost sight of" by the "embittered" include: freedom from civil tyranny and religious domination along with freedom of thought, life, liberty, the pursuit of their own destiny, as well as the right to property. Let's not neglect the right to worship God according to the dictates of their own conscience (without going through a middle man).

Although these freedoms have not really "been lost sight of," they are values being eroded and threatened by the recent turn of events in the U.E.P. These shifts of policy have caused the "embittered", who put high priority on their free agency, to appeal to the safeguards available to American Citizens.

Our "community's solidarity" has evolved through the confidence between citizens. Confidence they had in each other and in the U.E.P. was the motivation to consecrate land, labor, and money into the U.E.P. "trust." There were many hands and many years of effort consecrated.

If resorting "to the outside enemy for help" is the indication of "forsaken faith," then we ask you, dear editor, why have you forsaken the faith?

You have retained an attorney since 1954. You resorted to the government for sewer and water loans. You resorted to Kingman for a public high school. You resorted to the law to deprive others of their homes and liberty. When you do it, it's O.K., when others do it, it's "forsaken faith." Come now, why the double standard? The priesthood, including President Johnson has for years been against getting funds from the government. Yet you have gone after all you can get. And are we ever in bondage!!!!

It's not why have you "forsaken faith," but when??!!

RECEIVED  
MAR 8 8 27 AM '85  
UNITED STATES  
ATTORNEY  
DISTRICT OF UTAH

March 4, 1985

## Quest Editorial

Throughout history in the quest for human freedom, there has always been a peculiar individual or group of people with radical new ideas. For the introduction of new ideas, they usually received as a reward- banishment, ostracism by relatives and friends and, sometimes, even death.

The human race by nature hates changes and doesn't like to explore uncertain and unproven ideas.

In the early ages of time, anyone who came forth to the public with new ideas was sure to find retaliation of some sort. The people were extremely superstitious and very vulnerable to any suggestion made by the priest, who had complete control over the people's minds. Because of the love of power and the desire to control the people, any individual who even suggested human freedom, was exposed to the public by the priest as being a witch or possessed by evil spirits. With the control of the mass, the execution was easy to rid him of his threat, and with it went the individual's radical ideas of freedom that endangered the faith that kept the community in existence and under the priest's control.

As time has progressed, little by little the ideas of freedom have become more self-apparent and recognized as an important need for every individual if the human race is to function properly. The human race became more enlightened with the exposure of human freedom as being taught in the Bible. That being: All men should be self controlling, with the responsibility for his own thoughts, words and actions. That liberty and freedom are inherited rights given by God, and not a man-given grant that could be taken away.

The world always has and probably always will have well meaning individuals who will declare; "Follow me. I am right. All who do not agree with what I say are wrong and must be banished or destroyed." These people will also exercise on the idea that an individual's freedom is only acknowledged in his case, and anyone else's should be ignored. These individual "do gooders" will put themselves in a position of being close to God and do everything in their power to force their views on all others. Then giving the understanding to his people that it is for the good of all. But no matter how sincere they may be, the fact remains that the individual's freedom and free agency is totally nonexistent.

And so history is in the process of repeating itself. When a few peculiar people give rise to the idea that the property they live on should be secure to them with titles, thus giving them freedom to private ownership; the priest then proclaims to the mass that we are fighting against God and that we are the enemy. He convinces them that we are here to destroy them, when all we are trying to accomplish, is to make people aware of their own self inherited rights given by God to private ownership of property and most importantly, their God given freedom!!!!

What the outcome will be God only knows, but we can only pray, that God will help the people with the understanding that Freedom is to each individual LIFE itself!

Dec. 12/1984  
**Polygamy solution**

Editor, Spectrum:

I would like to answer the letter in the Public Forum from Mr. Joseph Denston. I am a resident of Short Creek (Colorado City, Hildale). The majority of the people here are good, honest, upright and hard working citizens and, except for the "incident" of polygamy or bigamy, are law-abiding.

It is the very few rotten apples that can spoil the whole barrel. Those of us who are involved in multiple marriage relationship went into the "practice" in good faith and religious conviction. As we grow older, we grow wiser, but we have made commitments that our consciences will not allow us to neglect. This however is not the real problem at Short Creek. Through our blind obedience, we have allowed the few rotten apples to gain the power of ruling our society and controlling completely our lives and property ownership.

The law enforcement power in the community is completely controlled

by "cult" hierarchy, therefore the people are under two very powerful forms of slavery, the denial of property ownership and the enforcement of "cult" policy by recognized civil law. In many cases, there have been physical assaults by self appointed enforcers who operate in complete disregard of human and civil rights.

The answer to the situation at Short Creek is not to incarcerate the people living polygamy, which involve over a thousand people, but to indict only those guilty of more serious crimes. Removing the compulsory policies against the younger generation, therefore allowing them to live a life of "freedom of choice," also giving the deeds of property to those living in the homes that were built and paid for by the occupants.

If these two corrections were made the polygamy issue would die out of its own accord in the next generation. I sincerely believe this is the most effective solution of the problems at Short Creek.

I am asking the editor to withhold

my name because of fear of reprisals against myself and family.

## Trouble in Colorado City

Editor:

I am writing in regard to a recent letter to the editor in *The Mohave Daily Miner* written by Al Woolley, Kingman. He had written in regard to the denial of a liquor license at Littlefield, Ariz. He was explaining how the overbearing influence of members from the fundamentalist cult at Colorado City had had such an effect at the supervisors meeting.

It is encouraging to have some of the citizens from south of the Grand Canyon get an insight into some of the problems that we up here have had to put up with for the last 20 years. How can we convince the elected officials from there to listen to the "law-abiding" citizens from the Colorado City area, instead of those living in violation of state laws and moral standards of our society?

Living at Colorado City is becoming almost unbearable for some of us. We face the dilemma of either moving to one of the neighboring communities, leaving our homes we have built with no payment for equity, or staying here and trying to change the conditions that exist. If we choose to stay, we desperately need the support of the citizens and officials from the rest of Mohave County.

Ben Bistline  
Colorado City

Dec. 27, 1984

## Another school vote 12-21-84

Editor:

The Colorado City crowd is back in town again, precisely at the supervisor meeting requesting Jim Vandevier, Mohave County school superintendent, to draw up the contract for another school election in Colorado City. You remember, the same one that was defeated in November by 1,530 votes.

Trivia from Mohave County. My many hours of research in the county courthouse, public records uncovered 353 adults that voted, 100 being men, 253 being women, in the Colorado City area.

More interesting — none of these individuals own property. Makes you wonder what else is going on?

They want the county taxpayers to pay for their school — albeit they want no outsiders coming into their community.

Monday when the board of supervisors voted unanimously to approve the new election, the men folk graciously smiled and traversed out of the meeting room.

Springtime — you will have something to look forward to — another school election.

Al Woolley  
Kingman

the

Vote no 2/25/85

Editor, Spectrum:

Colorado City Elementary School District #14 promoted the governor of Arizona and the Arizona Legislature for an exception for the \$2 million tax base required by law to form a high school district. The bill was enacted through political lobbying, political pressure, etc.

This bill was presented to the voters at the November election and was defeated. Proponents cried "foul," claiming the public was uninformed or misinformed. Yet the general public in the Colorado City area were not informed of the lobbying to obtain the exception bill! Had they known, some formal objection would have been made to this action. This special bill was obtained under subterfuge!

The Elementary School officials, together with the Mohave County High School officials and the county school officials decided "once is not enough!" They called for a special election on the same issue. The price tag for the election seemed too much for the Elementary School District, so they promoted another exception! The voters have been dealt a foul

blow, in that many precincts have no open polling place and must travel to another to exercise their franchise. Voters from one precinct in Mohave County must travel 80 miles, some of it through Utah, to vote! And as many as four precincts are combined to use one polling place! It would appear that more subterfuge is being practiced, in that many voters are required to make more effort that usual to vote, perhaps in the hope that they won't vote, thus reducing the "NO" vote?

The county school officials and the Mohave Union High School District officials have stated that they cannot administer a school at such a distance. Is this an excuse to "drop a hot potato," further creating a "Country within a Country," giving Colorado City an exclusive political entity including the absolute administration of the schools, civil government, law enforcement, etc., funded by "foreign aid" from Arizona? This appears to be the destiny of the current trend in politics pertaining to this area!

Prevent the further erosion of the political climate in Mohave County! Vote "NO" on March 5, 1985 in the special school election, even if it requires driving sizable distances to do so!

Cyril Bradshaw  
Colorado City

☐ The Spectrum welcomes letters from its readers. Letters may be addressed to: Editor, Daily Spectrum; c/o the address listed on page 3 of each edition.



## PUBLIC FORUM

Sunday 3/3/85

### School vote

Editor, Spectrum:

March 5th is the day when the voters of Mohave County will again have the privilege and duty of expressing themselves on the matter of a high school district in Colorado City, Ariz.

Each voter should realize that Colorado City is the home of a religious cult and operates as a state within a state, similar to Vatican City. The greatest difference between them is the birth-rate.

There are a great many such cults in the U.S. They all have certain trademarks. Each will have elevated some man to the status of a spiritual superman, who they think has a closed circuit with Diety. They look to him for all the answers and his decisions are accepted as infallible.

This spiritual superman will be surrounded by functionaries who stand tall in the community and hold to their rank with the tenacity of a mastiff. All the underlings feel secure in that they are in the herd and can best express themselves by praying, paying and obeying.

There are a few in Colorado City, however, who are beginning to feel that the system operates too much like a mule train, in which, except for the lead team, the scenery can become damned monotonous. They feel that enough is enough. Human endurance is much like the string on the fiddle, which can stand only so

many turns of the screw. They feel like the porcupine who spent a night in the forest with a skunk. As he emerged from the forest the following morning, he was heard to say, "I won't say that I've had all that I could endure, but I've damn sure had all I want."

These dissidents will be voting NO on this high school issue. They feel that one cult-dominated school (the elementary) is enough. They favor a high school that is run by the county. After all they constitute a small minority in Colorado City and are looked upon as a few Protestants would be looked upon in Dublin, Ireland.

Each of the many cults in this country would like to withdraw from the wicked world, become a state within a state, have their private, cult-dominated school, raise their children in a stall and keep their heads in a pressure cooker. All this with public funding.

When our forefathers were struggling to give religion its proper place in the Constitution, they never had all these cults in mind. What a struggle it is for the U.S. Government to provide shelter and protection for all these cults. What other country is doing so well?

Homer G. Phelps  
Colorado City

# Polygamist sheriff deputy resigns Colo. City post

Feb. 14, 1985  
Special to the Spectrum

KINGMAN, Ariz. — Polygamist Samuel Stevens Barlow, a veteran deputy sheriff for the Mohave County Sheriff's Dept., has resigned, Chief Deputy Dave Mullin said today.

Barlow, 48, the resident deputy sheriff in Colorado City, announced his decision to resign Wednesday, saying he wanted to devote more time to his Mormon fundamentalist sect, said Mullin.

Prior to resignation Barlow, who has three wives, had been taking vacation time off and was working Saturdays and Sundays only — because he had the highest amount of compensatory time in the department, with close to 4,000 hours built up.



Sam Barlow

His effective date of resignation is mid-June, added Mullin who noted that Barlow will receive in excess of \$60,000 in cash payoff as a direct result of the "comp"

time.

Barlow had been connected with the sheriff's department for 21 years, the past 12 as a full-time deputy sheriff.

He leaves on a good basis — at his own choice, Mullin added.

## UEP publicity

When Sheriff Joe Bonzelet came into office after the November 1984 election, Mullin said, Barlow was cautioned about separating his job and church duties.

The discussions apparently came about because of publicity associated with the United Effort Plan which controls nearly all of the property in Colorado City, Ariz. and Hildale, Utah.

Deputy Larry Johnson, a nephew of Fundamentalist prophet Leroy Johnson, will replace Barlow at Colorado City.

Steve Bailey, the other deputy assigned to the Arizona Strip, will work out of St. George and cover the Littlefield, Ariz. area, said Mullin. Both deputies will cover for each other on days off.

Lt. Dan Bishop will be their immediate supervisor.

Barlow first began as a volunteer with the department assisting the resident deputy in Colorado City. When Deputy Alfonso H. Nyborg left, Barlow was encouraged by church leaders to apply for the job so that law enforcement would be "friendly" to the closed community, said a resident.

## Worked as laborer

Elaine Gubler of LaVerkin, a daughter of Nyborg, said in a telephone interview that Colorado City leaders wanted her father out of the

deputy sheriff's job so they could have one of their own people in the position, "and that's what they got" with Sam Barlow.

Prior to becoming a deputy, Barlow worked as a laborer on the building of Glen Canyon Dam and moved up to become a safety inspector. He was there for approximately three years.

In addition to his newly acquired sheriff's duties he was for several years in charge of the United Effort Plan's Meadowayne Dairy in Colorado City.

The son of Martha Jessop and John Y. Barlow, Sam's immediate family consists of seven brothers and four sisters.

His father was primarily responsible for establishing the religious order in Colorado City.

"He (Deputy Barlow) was a real good cop until it came to Colorado City and when it came there, his loyalties changed. His loyalties were to the church (UEP)," said Ben Bistline, a resident of Colorado City.

## Wife remains assessor

Although Barlow is resigning, his first wife, Ina Black will remain as a deputy assessor with the Mohave County Motor Vehicle Dept., a spokesman said. Her office is adjacent to the sheriff's office in Colorado City.

To the outside world, Barlow became a spokesman for the community as a 1969 Los Angeles Times article suggested.

"He has a firm idea of good publicity — none. And he has a stock suggestion for reporters — leave town," the newspaper said.

The article went on to say that Barlow patrolled dirt roads in a pickup truck. "I don't stand for lawlessness," he said. Twice asked whether he knew of any man living with more than one wife, Barlow answered, "I don't know of anybody not trying to live within the law."

Last year, when asked by *The Daily Spectrum* about the religious split between the Colorado City populace and the problems associated with the community, Barlow avoided answering and instead launched into a "What's right with America," speech.

## 'Close-lipped'

Evan Whitehead, former Washington County sheriff, said that "Sam was real quiet around us. He was very close-lipped about the goings on and activities out in Colorado City."

"Sam was fairly well up on police operations, he was pretty sharp."

But, "he very seldom brought people in from out there," when it had to do with criminal activity. "They just dealt with it there."

"There was never anything that transpired out there that Sam didn't want to know all about. He wanted every detail out there. He had to have all the information. And you had the feeling that it wasn't just being used for law enforcement purposes but was funneled to the hierarchy for their purposes."

## Goodbye, Sam

Editor, Spectrum:

You handled Sam's "resignation" gently, but I hope you are not finished with him. For years he has been the arresting officer, the jury, the judge, and the persecutor to anyone he and his "Brethren" wanted out of town. But he always put his protecting arms around criminals from Colorado City who he wanted to protect.

If you were to openly invite former residents of Colorado City (and some who may still live there) to anonymously send you an account of their "criminal encounter" with Sam, you'd be horrified at the inhumane and illegal treatment they received from Sam. They could tell of near fatal beatings, falsified statements, removal of evidence, threatened castration, deprivation of civil rights, harassment, being chased out of town without a hearing, etc. etc.

Now, Sam wants to "devote more time to his Mormon Fundamentalist Sect." That's what he's been doing!

2/24/85 Florence Williams  
Littlefield, Ariz.

Feb. 26, 1965

Because of greed and the driving desire for more power, a few manipulators of the U.E.P. (the holding company of our several "stewardships") have precipitated a decisive crisis which is forcing us to make decisions we never dreamed would confront us. Our options narrow with each restrictive move taken by the "manipulators."

Society lives and acts only in individuals. Everyone carries a part of society on his shoulders; no one is relieved of his share of responsibility by someone else. And no one can find a safe way out for himself if our society is sweeping toward destruction. Therefore, everyone in his own interest, must thrust himself vigorously into the intellectual battle. No one can stand aside with unconcern; the interests of everyone hang in the balance.

Special interest groups, "favorite sons," and various "power" brokers have eroded our once delightful community's solidarity down to a dangerous, volatile time bomb in which "father against son," "brother against brother" "mother against daughter," "husband against wife," threaten to reduce our society to anarchy.

To place blame this late in the program is probably pointless, there's no going back. What's the next step, then? Is there a constructive way out of the mess we find ourselves in?

When we get to the place in our thinking where we can accept the desirability of private ownership of the places where we live, and put the principles in motion to make it happen, we will see better times.

Without a society in which life and property are secure, existence can continue only at the lowest levels -- we cannot have a good life for those we love, nor can we devote our energies to life on a higher level.

RECEIVED  
MAR 4 9 44 AM '65  
UNITED STATES  
ATTORNEY  
DISTRICT OF UTAH

FBI

## TRANSMIT VIA:

☐ Teletype  
☐ Facsimile  
☒ AIRTEL

## PRECEDENCE:

☐ Immediate  
☐ Priority  
☐ Routine

## CLASSIFICATION:

☐ TOP SECRET  
☐ SECRET  
☐ CONFIDENTIAL  
☐ UNCLAS E F T O  
☐ UNCLAS

Date 2/20/85

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI  
 ATTN: CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION  
 CIVIL RIGHTS UNIT

FROM: SAC, SALT LAKE CITY (44B-674) (C)

LEROI S. JOHNSON;  
 ET AL;  
 CIVIL RIGHTS;  
 OO: Phoenix

Re Salt Lake City FD-610 and attached LHM dated 1/28/85.

Enclosed for the Bureau are five copies of an LHM dated 2/20/85.

Salt Lake City is conducting no additional investigation unless specifically requested by CRD, U. S. Department of Justice.

673  
 FEB 26 1985  
 Complete

2 - Bureau (Enc. 5)  
 1 - Salt Lake City  
 VDK:ybe  
 (3)

Approved: *T/K/m*

Transmitted

(Number)

(Time)

Per *[Signature]*

1 CRD, 1 CRU

ATTN: Criminal

OYC (G) DATE: 2-26-85

INIT: A.E.K. km

JUL 20 1985



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Salt Lake City, Utah  
February 20, 1985

LEROI S. JOHNSON;

RULON T. JEFFS;

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS;

- VICTIM/COMPLAINANT;

- VICTIM/COMPLAINANT;

- VICTIM/COMPLAINANT;

- VICTIM/COMPLAINANT;

- VICTIM/COMPLAINANT;

- VICTIM/COMPLAINANT;

UNKNOWN VICTIMS

CIVIL RIGHTS

b6  
b7C

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This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

44-102945-2

BRENT D. WARD  
466 UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE  
350 SOUTH MAIN STREET  
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84101

February 15, 1985

TO: Dave Kohl  
Assistant Special Agent In Charge  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

FM; Brent D. Ward  
United States Attorney  
District of Utah

RE: Society of Freemen

The enclosed material is forwarded to be included in your FBI  
investigative file in the above matter.

[REDACTED]

RECEIVED  
February 11, 1985 FEB 12 8 25 PM '85 [REDACTED]

UNITED STATES  
ATTORNEY  
DISTRICT OF UTAH

Mr. Brent Ward  
United States Attorney  
P.O. Box 2750  
Salt Lake City, UT 84110

*Please forward  
to Mr. Kohl to be  
included in FBI  
investigative file in  
this matter*

Dear Mr. Ward:

Thank you for the copy of your letter to Agent David Kohl. Although I haven't heard from him, I feel assured that the circumstances surrounding our situation here will be fairly and thoroughly investigated. *BW*

The violence indicated by the young man's affidavit sent to you was reported to Mohave County Deputy Sheriff [REDACTED] [REDACTED] has been investigated and I understand has been referred to Mohave County Attorney for disposition. I will keep you informed on that case as things develop.

I think you are aware that we retained [REDACTED] [REDACTED] to represent us in our civil claim against the United Effort Plan trust. His initial letter to the officers of the trust was answered by their attorney, [REDACTED] of Phoenix, Arizona. [REDACTED] indicated in a letter to [REDACTED] that his clients would entertain conditions of negotiations if a list of the claimants against the UEP trust would be furnished. [REDACTED] received our permission to divulge our names and composed the enclosed letter to [REDACTED] (1)

The conditions of "good faith" were not recognized by the officers of the trust, since the names were divulged to the people generally in sermons by the officers in Salt Lake City, and in Colorado City, as is implied in the affidavit of [REDACTED] (2)

[REDACTED] answer to [REDACTED] letter is enclosed. (3) (This letter was read from the pulpit in meeting Sunday, February 10, 1985 in Colorado City.) Please permit me to point out some of the errors in the letter, probably misrepresented to him by his clients.

[REDACTED] had no intention of abandoning her home, the doors were locked and entry was made by forcing the locks.

b6  
b7C

The phone call to Mr. Johnson did not include any statement of intent to remove, nor could it have been inferred from the conversation. According to [redacted] (see his affidavit re this issue) the atmosphere surrounding the action of "breaking and entering" was anything but peaceful. Many other points in this account are also erroneous.

Please note the admission in the last sentence on page one of the civil rights violation - the notice to vacate from the UEP was served through the Mohave County Sheriff's office, but did not originate in any court. (Due process?)

On page two, [redacted] had no intention to move for at least one year, since his house was far from completed. In fact, it has been stated by [redacted] [redacted], Deputy Sheriff [redacted] and others that [redacted] was being evicted for immorality, but has never been so charged in ecclesiastical or civil court, and is denied by [redacted]. Also, the statement that they needed the housing for another is very interesting, since a house emptied by [redacted] [redacted], evicted on moral charges before [redacted] eviction, has remained empty to this date.

b6  
b7C

I'm sure your analysis of the letter will come up with other inconsistencies. If I can help answer any of them, please call me or write me.

I thought that as a closing thought, I would include a copy of our local "newspaper" with two items circled. They should prove interesting, and perhaps add enlightenment on the mentality of the local populace.

Thanks again for your help.

Sincerely [redacted]



RECEIVED

FEB 12 8 25 PM '85

UNITED STATES  
ATTORNEY  
DISTRICT OF UTAH

January 10, 1985

RE: UNITED EFFORT PLAN TRUST

Dear [REDACTED]

Please find enclosed names of those clients I and other counsel in Utah and Arizona represent against the United Effort Plan Trust and its trustees. These names are submitted to you in good faith solely for your good faith use in settlement negotiations and for no other purpose. The names are as follow:

b6  
b7C

Each of the above named individuals desires fee simple title to certain properties, which I will disclose to you at our Tuesday meeting with such precision as possible. In addition, Plaintiffs [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] desire money damages for wrongful eviction, defamation of character, civil rights violations, and other causes. My clients have all been instructed to discuss this matter with no one and to report any attempts at harassment, eviction, or other reprisals, however subtly or indirectly attempted, to me or, if sufficiently serious, to the appropriate Federal or State investigative agencies. Also, please be advised that I have requested my clients to make no

[REDACTED]  
Page 2

January 11, 1985

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comment to press of any kind, even though they have the lawful right to do so, for the next few days in order to facilitate good faith negotiations between you and me.

b6  
b7C

I am hopeful that we can amicably resolve these property and damage claims shortly. I appreciate your meeting with me in Phoenix.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]  
Attorney at Law

RCH/bmh

3

January 28, 1985

Re: United Effort Plan Trust

Dear [redacted]

Since my conversation with you and [redacted] on January 15, I have had an opportunity to consider the matters raised and to discuss the various matters with my clients.

Concerning the issues of the "evictions" of [redacted] and [redacted], I understand the following in fact occurred:

[redacted] had vacated the home that she had previously occupied in Colorado City and notified Mr. Johnson of this fact by phone. Reports were made to Mr. Johnson that the power had been disconnected, the doors were standing open and there was a strong odor of spoiled meat coming from the [redacted] house. He sent several young men who normally perform maintenance duties concerning the United Effort property to the house and they determined that the house was in a state of disrepair, built-in cabinets had been removed and the state was generally one of neglect and abandonment.

At some point, [redacted] arrived from Salt Lake, where, we understand, she had established residence, which may have been for the possibility of obtaining the greater welfare payments available in those environs. Apparently, the persons in the home left and thereafter [redacted] was served with a notice to vacate which gave her thirty days within which to remove her things from the property. It is our understanding that her possessions were moved to [redacted] home with help from members of the community. The notice to vacate was served on her as civil service coming through the office of the sheriff in Kingman.

b6  
b7C

[redacted]  
January 28, 1985

Page 2

When [redacted] was served a similar notice to vacate, he had for all intents and purposes completed a new residence in [redacted]. He had stated his intentions to move there and, in fact, needed to move there shortly after the notice was served so that he could enter his children in school. The purpose of that notice was merely to make sure that the home which he intended to vacate would be available for use by another member of the community within a reasonable period of time as housing has always been in short supply in Colorado City.

With regard to the "evictions," I frankly see no civil rights violations. They were not forcible and under the terms of the trust, the parties resided on the premises only so long as such was determined to be proper by the trustees. In the two above cases, the residences had been abandoned or the intention to abandon was expressed and the recipients voluntarily complied with the notice.

With regard to the other matters raised at our meeting, you state that your clients are very fearful and that such fear comes in part from the fact that they were deleted as beneficiaries in the Amended Affidavit of Disclosure and that there have been rumors of guns and prospective violence.

b6  
b7C

As your clients well know, the people of Colorado City are a very peaceful people with primarily agrarian interests. This was discovered by the Arizona Highway Patrol in 1953 when they arrived in town with drawn guns only to find the people waiting in the streets to comply with the lawful orders of the raiders. Then, as now, it was not the intent or purpose of the people to react with violence even though their very life was being attacked.

With regard to the rumors of the guns, representatives of the trustees have requested that state and federal officials investigate this matter as they have no knowledge of any weapons other than a few old hunting rifles.

The original Affidavit of Disclosure was prepared and filed to comply with a statute passed in Arizona in 1976 requiring the disclosure of the name and address of persons having an interest in Arizona land under a trust or an estate.

In reviewing the list of your clients, it appears that [redacted] [redacted] should never have been listed as beneficiaries because they don't reside on Arizona land and the statute has no requirement concerning Utah land.

[REDACTED]  
January 28, 1985  
Page 3

There have been no court cases construing the statute and, frankly, it occurs to me that the beneficiaries are not sufficiently fixed so as to be amenable to disclosure. I am certain, however, that being on the list does not make one a beneficiary nor does being removed from the list eliminate a person as a beneficiary if they are in fact a beneficiary. In this trust, as in all trusts, the terms of the trust instrument are controlling.

The trust instrument speaks of members rather than beneficiaries and authorizes the trustees to render assistance to nonmembers as well as members of the trust. The trust instrument in several places specifically states that membership does not create any interest in or title to the trust property or give a member the right to partition the property.

Over the years many people have consecrated property to the trust either by donating land to the trust or by improving land already owned by the trust. Some of them have voluntarily left Colorado City well knowing that property once consecrated to the trust is not returnable. The whole scenario is legally similar to a lessee improving real estate. Without a provision in the lease, the lessee must leave the improvements that have become affixed to the land when his tenancy terminates.

b6  
b7C

The United Effort Plan has been an umbrella which has protected the people of Colorado City since its inception over forty years ago. During this period of time many people have made consecrations to the trust, many people have been permitted to build homes with the help of their neighbors on trust property and they have lived abundantly in these homes, without payment of any rent for the property.

I understand that there has been no question in any residents' mind that they reside on the trust property at the will of the trustees, who are empowered to terminate the permission to reside on trust property when such residence was not necessary or because the residents were acting prejudicial to the spirit of the trust. It is my understanding that the power of the trustees to revoke the permission to live on trust property was discussed on many occasions in no uncertain terms by [REDACTED] at meetings in the community.

My clients are duty bound to administer the assets of the trust in accordance with its intent and purpose. It was never the purpose of the trust to transfer property, be it land or money, to persons claiming some unsubstantiated entitlement; rather, it

[REDACTED]  
January 28, 1985

Page 4

was the purpose of the trust to use its assets to satisfy the just needs of people residing in Colorado City; to do otherwise would make a mockery of all who have contributed.

My clients have had their way of life, their freedom and their families attacked before. The United Effort Plan has helped them survive those attacks. It is not now their purpose or intent to take steps which will lead to the eventual dissolution of the United Effort Plan which is such an integral part of the life and values of a majority of the Colorado City residents.

Other than the two people who had abandoned or were soon to abandon the residences they occupied, none of your clients have been asked to leave the homes they live in. This is not to say that they will not be asked to leave if they conduct themselves in a manner which is prejudicial to the spirit of the United Effort Plan, however, the same applies to all other residents of the United Effort Plan land whether or not they are on any list.

b6  
b7C

If your clients are intent upon causing a legal confrontation which will bring untold misery and suffering to the community because of the close relationship between many of the families living there, my clients will resist such actions for as long as it takes to protect and preserve their way of life. There will be no spoils for the victor in such a battle; however, my clients are convinced that they will prevail however painful the victory. Nonetheless, they are convinced, as are the vast majority of the people in the community, that a painful battle is far less painful than to consent to the destruction of the community and life they have worked for so hard and so long.

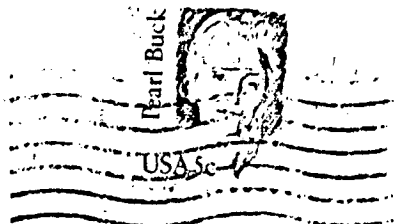
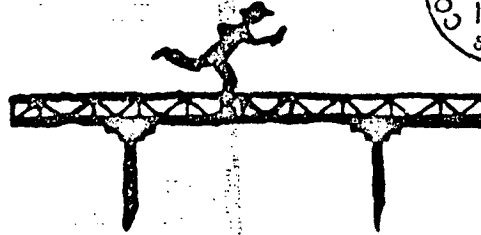
[REDACTED]

CAD:hd

cc: Leroy S. Johnson  
Rulon T. Jeffs

# TWIN CITY COURIER

COLORADO CITY, ARIZ.



HILDALE, UTAH

## PLEDGED

To correctly inform the public

To promote individual responsibility

To safeguard local enterprises

Vol. 23 #1

January 24, 1985

### FACING THE NEW YEAR

Counted blessings are numerous. Notwithstanding the looming future problems, we look hopefully forward to successes and added blessings which will only come through faith and very diligent effort. Therefore, let us press forward humbly and graciously despite whatever obstacles we may have to encounter.

### COLLEGE STUDENTS

The local people attending classes at SUSC in Cedar City are doing well and making commendable showing. On the honor roll we find the names, Kimball Barlow, Coleen and Lorette Darger, Donna Holm, Marie Jessop, and Beverly Timpson. These, and others from our town, are taking college classes with the intent to become teachers.

### MARVELOUS UNDERTAKING

Getting the new store building equipped and ready for occupancy has been tremendous, costwise, workwise, and the expertise of skilled workmen and others has indeed been marvelous to behold. Great appreciation is due to those whose effort and support has made it possible.

### CONCERTED EFFORT

Men and machines were rallied to improve the bad road conditions within the community recently. Trucks, loaders, graders, etc. were volunteered to haul and place cinders on the muddy roads. Two days activity made much improvement to road conditions.

### TUMURRU MOVES OFFICE

The big new office complex and hardware store now houses the business and personnel offices of Tumuru employees. The building is a stately brick structure in harmonious color to the sandstone hills. The building is located near the highway in the Hildale Industrial Park.

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Some lasting improvements are being made throughout the community. Several homes under construction are showing up on the landscape, which gives encouragement and appreciation. Also the curb and gutter installation at the creek crossing area in preparation of asphalt sidewalks as soon as favorable weather arrives. Parking lot preparations at the new store portends the opening of the new store.

### DECEMBER WEATHER

Winter storms brought 2.92 inches of rainfall to this locality, bringing the total for the 1984 year to 13.58", which is below the last four year average, 18.23 in 1983, 16.70 in 1982, 18.38 in 1981, December was a cold month, 20 days registered below freezing. The thermometer got down to 11° on the 17th, highest daytime reading was 57° on the 7th.

### NEW MANAGER

South Central Utah Telephone Co-op has a new general Manager. Fred Stout has taken a managerial position in a Phone Co. in the South Pacific Islands and Danny Spencer, who has been manager in the Mesquite Nevada Co-op has now been installed as the new manager for South Central Utah Telephone Co.

### BLESSINGS LOST SIGHT OF

Blessings lost sight of in these days has caused some to become embittered against the hands through which our community's solidarity has been made; and, like all others who have forsaken faith, they have resorted to the outside enemy help, for hoped for comfort.

#### CHILD FIND WEEK

The child Find Project needs your help in locating handicapped children, ages birth to age five.

Children ages three to five with hearing, speech, visual, Physical, or mental handicaps are eligible for services at the Colorado City Elementary Handicap Preschool.

Physical therapy services are available for children birth to age three.

If you know of a handicapped child, who needs extra help, call the Handicap preschool 875-2288 (Jeannie) for information or bring the child to:

Screening evaluations  
handicap preschool,  
Friday  
2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

In order to reserve a place for the child in the program and to secure funding for the school year 1985-86, these children need to be located as soon as possible.

#### EMINENT DISASTERS

At Home and abroad, both natural and man caused disasters are costing untold misery and expense, resulting in deaths of many people.

Fires, bombings, crashes, earthquakes and other weather extremes tend to be depopulating the earth.

#### U.S. PRESIDENT

Ronald Reagan begins his second term as president amid immense national and international problems.

whoops!

The last issue of the courier listed as #18, should have been #17.

Our apologies

#### FOR THE YOUNG FOLKS

#### Poems To Live By

##### FORGIVE

When to anger I am stirred,  
By a hasty, careless word,  
I'll think of Him, who died for  
me,  
On the cross of Calvary.

He said, "Forgive them Father,  
For they know not what they do."  
He had no anger in His heart,  
Just love for me and you.

So instead of being angry,  
I'll be tolerant and forgive,  
Then I'll be more like Jesus,  
Who died that I might live.  
-Gwen Fisher Stovall.

##### SMILE A LITTLE

Smile a little,  
Smile a little,  
You'll be happier if you do.  
Smile a little,  
Smile a little,  
And let the sun shine through.  
For our Father in Heaven  
Likes to see a bright and  
smiling face.  
So smile a little,  
Smile a little,  
And brighten up the place.  
You'll find you'll be much  
happier,  
And life will be worthwhile  
Just because you smiled  
A little smile.

-Gwen Fisher Stovall.

##### OBEDIENCE

Our Father in Heaven sent His Son  
To teach us right from wrong.  
And we must keep his command-  
ments  
To be happy, free and strong.

So honor thy father and mother  
As He has told us to  
And obey their loving counsel  
And do what they'd have us do.

'Cause our parents have gone before  
us  
Down the rocky road of life  
And they know the many pitfalls  
That can cause us pain and strife.

So listen to your parents  
And you'll never go astray  
For they only want your happiness  
And love to show you the way.

-Gwen Fisher Stovall.



FBI

## TRANSMIT VIA:

☐ Teletype  
☐ Facsimile  
☒ AIRTEL

## PRECEDENCE:

☐ Immediate  
☐ Priority  
☐ Routine

## CLASSIFICATION:

☐ TOP SECRET  
☐ SECRET  
☐ CONFIDENTIAL  
☐ UNCLAS E F T O  
☐ UNCLAS

Date 2/22/85

5-26

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI  
 ATTN: CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION  
 CIVIL RIGHTS UNIT

FROM: SAC, SALT LAKE CITY (44B-674) (C)

LEROY S. JOHNSON;  
 ET AL;  
 CIVIL RIGHTS;  
 OO: Phoenix

Re Salt Lake City FD-610 and attached LHM dated 1/28/85; Salt Lake City airtel to Bureau with attached LHM dated 2/20/85.

Salt Lake City is conducting no additional investigation unless specifically requested by CRD, U. S. Department of Justice.

2 - Bureau (Enc. 5)  
 1 - Salt Lake City  
 VDK:ybe  
 (3)

44-102945-3

DE 181

FEB 27 1985

(X)

Approved: T/K/lu

Transmitted

(Number)

(Time)

Per

JUL 30 1985 DMM

MAY 16 1985

1 CRD, 1 CRJ

ATTN: Criminal Section

070 (G)

DATE: 3-11-85

INIT: AEF:tm



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Salt Lake City, Utah  
February 22, 1985

LEROY S. JOHNSON;  
RULON T. JEFFS;  
UNKNOWN SUBJECTS;

- VICTIM/COMPLAINANT;  
- VICTIM/COMPLAINANT;  
- VICTIM/COMPLAINANT;  
- VICTIM/COMPLAINANT;  
- VICTIM/COMPLAINANT;  
- VICTIM/COMPLAINANT;

UNKNOWN VICTIMS  
CIVIL RIGHTS

On February 21, 1985, the following letter and attached documents were received at the Salt Lake City Office of the FBI:

44-102945-3

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

44-102945-3 7/1/87



U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney  
District of Utah

Post Office Box 2750  
350 South Main  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84110

801/524-5682  
FTS/588-5682

February 19, 1985

David Kohl  
Assistant Special Agent In Charge  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
3203 Federal Building  
125 South State Street  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84138

Re: Complaint of [redacted] et al.

b6  
b7C

Dear Dave:

I have enclosed [redacted] letter dated February 13, 1985, for your investigative file in the above matter.

Sincerely yours,

BRENT D. WARD  
United States Attorney

Enclosure

2

February 13, 1985

RECEIVED

FEB 19 8 58 AM '85

UNITED STATES  
ATTORNEY  
DISTRICT OF UTAH

Mr. Brent Ward  
United States Attorney  
P.O. Box 2750,  
Salt Lake City, UT 84110

Dear Mr. Ward:

Enclosed is a copy of the local "newspaper", the Twin City Courier showing an item of interest (circled). This item has such a far-reaching implication pertaining to the mentality of the "city fathers" and their attitude of "bring us your money, you enemies, and we will tolerate your presence long enough to extract it from you" that it needed a response.

I have attempted to expose some of that attitude in the enclosed editorial. I have sent this to several newspapers and hope to obtain fairly wide coverage.

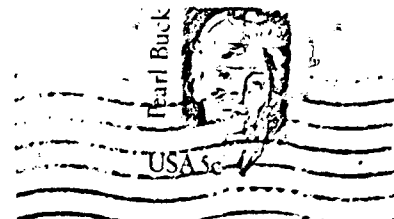
Please include this in your files for your reference.

Sincerely,

b6  
b7C

# TWIN CITY COURIER

COLORADO CITY, ARIZ.



HILDALE, UTAH

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## EDITORIAL

The Twin City Courier, the local "newspaper" of Colorado City, Arizona/Hildale, Utah, published by Fred M. Jessop, the new trustee of the United Effort Plan trust, printed an item in the issue of January 24, 1985 which bears consideration. The entire article follows:

"Blessings lost sight of in these days has caused some to become embittered against the hands through which our community's solidarity has been made; and, like all others who have forsaken faith, they have resorted to the outside enemy help, for hoped for comfort."

Appeal has been made by some members of the community to the media for exposure of an unsavory situation; one involving violation of civil rights, in disfranchisement of 118 beneficiaries of the trust, in acts of violence and other unlawful or improper actions. Are the members of the press the "outside enemy?"

Appeal has been made to the voters to consider the action of the Colorado City Elementary School District's attempt to form a high school district, and the voters chose to defeat the referendum. Are the voters of Mohave County the "outside enemy?"

Appeal has been made to the Mohave County Sheriff's Office and to Washington County Sheriff's Office for investigation of violence, of break-ins and other violations of the law. Are the Sheriff and his Deputies the "outside enemy?"

A number of children in the community have birth defects, are injured or maimed in some way and are recipients of help from various private and governmental agencies, which help we applaud!

Many citizens are recipients of financial aid through various welfare agencies, WIC, food stamps, etc. Are these welfare agencies the "outside enemy?"

The community "authorities" have "wooed" the various governmental agencies for funds to improve the area by developing a sewer system, improving the water system, etc. Hildale town is the frequent recipient of grants for the municipality from federal and local agencies, such as Five Counties, etc. Are these agencies the "outside enemy?"

Community officials invited Governor Babbit to participate in the dedication of the new building to be leased to the Elementary School District. He attended, made

a speech and flattered the community with his presence.

Sheriff Bonzelet has accepted an invitation from the local "authorities" to visit the community on Friday, February 15. He will undoubtedly be "wined and dined" in the best political tradition. Are the governmental officials the "outside enemy?"

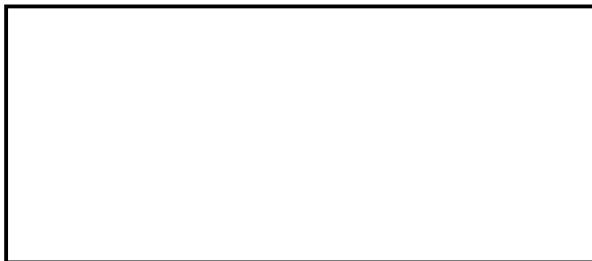
The Colorado City area raises revenues to support the local school in the amounts of about \$30,680. The Utah portion of the area raises 25,744 for the local school support. The combined tax revenue for the combined Utah and Arizona public elementary school is \$56,424. The present budget of the elementary school is \$2,300,000, or a gift from the taxpayers of over \$40 for each tax dollar paid. Are the taxpayers the "outside enemy?"

The United Effort Plan trust has retained an attorney for many years; [redacted] and others before him. Some disfranchised beneficiaries chose to contest the legality of the action of the "disfranchisement" and hired an attorney. Subsequent communication between the long retained UEP attorney and the recently retained attorney of those "disfranchised beneficiaries" seems have stimulated this attack. If the use of the attorney is resorting to "the outside enemy, for hoped for comfort" it would appear that the UEP has been resorting to the "outside enemy" since 1953.

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Pray tell, who is the "outside enemy?" Is it the media? the voter? the Sheriff? the taxpayer? the lawyer? Or is it the paranoia of those who have something to hide and seek to, like the magician, mis-direct the attention of the observer? You, the media, the voter, the taxpayer, the lawyer and the citizen need to determine this for yourselves!



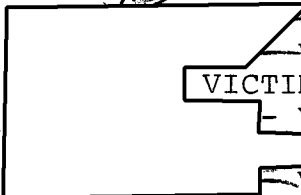
5-26  
**AIRTEL**

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 3/4/85

FROM: SAC, PHOENIX

ATTENTION: CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION  
CIVIL RIGHTS UNIT• ☒ initial submission \_\_\_\_\_ supplemental submission: \_\_\_\_\_ revision• 2. File No: 44B-1609 (include alpha)• 3. Status: ☒ P - pending, P\* - pending inactive, C - closed, RUC - referred upon completion• 4. Title: LEROY S. JOHNSON;  
RULON T. JEFFS;  
UNSUBS;

 - VICTIM/COMPLAINANT;  
 - VICTIM/COMPLAINANT;  
 - VICTIM/COMPLAINANT;  
 - VICTIM/COMPLAINANT;  
 - VICTIM/COMPLAINANT;  
 - VICTIM/COMPLAINANT;

b6  
b7CRe: UNKNOWN VICTIMS  
CIVIL RIGHTS (00: PHOENIX)

5. If Title changed, show previous Title:

• 6. TYPE OF CASE: (check one)

A. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CR	D. <input type="checkbox"/> CRA64-PE	G. <input type="checkbox"/> CRIPA	J. <input type="checkbox"/> FRS
B. <input type="checkbox"/> CRA64-E	E. <input type="checkbox"/> CRA64-PF	H. <input type="checkbox"/> DIH	K. <input type="checkbox"/> ISS
C. <input type="checkbox"/> CRA64-PA	F. <input type="checkbox"/> CREL	I. <input type="checkbox"/> ECOA	L. <input type="checkbox"/> PRIV. ACT - CRIM.

7. AGENCY TYPE: (check one)

A. <input type="checkbox"/> City-County Jail	F. <input type="checkbox"/> Sheriff's Office
B. <input type="checkbox"/> Federal Agency	G. <input type="checkbox"/> State Police - Hwy Patrol
C. <input type="checkbox"/> Police Department	H. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other
D. <input type="checkbox"/> Prison/Penitentiary	I. <input type="checkbox"/> Not pertinent
E. <input type="checkbox"/> Private Security	

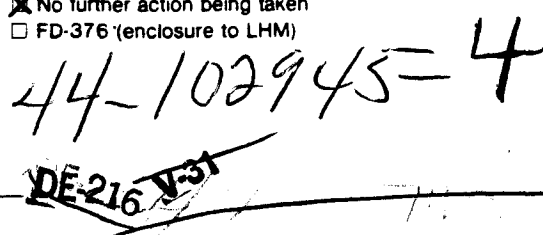
8. AGENCY NAME: Fundamental LDS Church (20) STATE: AZ (use 2-char. abbrev.)  
(omit if "Not pertinent" checked above)

• 9. ACTION: UACB;

(check if applicable)	A. <input type="checkbox"/> LHM enclosed	C. <input type="checkbox"/> Report enclosed	E. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No further action being taken
	B. <input type="checkbox"/> LHM being submitted	D. <input type="checkbox"/> Report being submitted	F. <input type="checkbox"/> FD-376 (enclosure to LHM)

• 10. Further action: A. ☐ investigation instituted  
B. ☐ investigation continuing  
C. ☐ investigation completed

11. Copy of above submitted to: (check as many as applicable)

A. <input type="checkbox"/> USA	
B. <input type="checkbox"/> Secret Service	
C. <input type="checkbox"/> BATF	
D. _____ (15) (other - specify)	

2 - Bureau  
1 - Phoenix  
WEA/rmd  
(3)

260  
JUL 30 1985

Enclosures

(ATTACHMENT A)  
FBI DOJ



Victim

ET AL

b6  
b7C

12. SUBJECTS (number):

A. _____ Amer. Indian	_____ Male	_____ Female
B. _____ Asian	_____ Male	_____ Female
C. _____ Black	_____ Male	_____ Female
D. _____ Hispanic	_____ Male	_____ Female
E. _____ White	_____ Male	_____ Female
F. _____ Other	_____ Male	_____ Female

If "Other" please specify: \_\_\_\_\_ (15)

13. VICTIMS (number):

A. _____ Amer. Indian	_____ Male	_____ Female
B. _____ Asian	_____ Male	_____ Female
C. _____ Black	_____ Male	_____ Female
D. _____ Hispanic	_____ Male	_____ Female
E. _____ White	_____ Male	_____ Female
F. _____ Other	_____ Male	_____ Female

If "Other" please specify: \_\_\_\_\_ (15)

14. Other descriptive data re victims: X not applicable

If applicable (number):

A. _____ under 18	C. _____ handicapped
B. _____ over 62	D. _____ institutionalized

15. Matter type (use best description, check more than one if applicable):

A. ☐ brutality type \_\_\_\_\_ (15) (i.e., shooting; beating)  
 B. ☒ nonbrutality  
 C. ☐ death of victim  
 D. ☐ suicide method \_\_\_\_\_ (15) (i.e., hanging, slashed wrist)  
 E. ☐ known extremist group type \_\_\_\_\_ (15) (i.e., Klan, Nazi, JDL)  
 F. ☐ suspected ext. group type \_\_\_\_\_ (15) (i.e., Klan, Nazi, JDL)  
 G. ☐ cross burning  
 H. ☐ migrant victim  
 I. ☐ violence to property type \_\_\_\_\_ (15) (i.e., arson, shooting)  
 J. ☐ ISS matter type \_\_\_\_\_ (i.e., peonage, enticement, servitude, other slavery)  
 K. ☐ other explain \_\_\_\_\_ (25)

\*16. Synopsis of Complaint - Date of initial complaint received 1/25/85, by Salt Lake City Division.

By letter, dated 1/22/85, USA Brent D. Ward, Salt Lake City, directed a letter, with its enclosures, to the FBI. Enclosed with the letter was extensive background information pertaining to the case. The complaint involves a religious community in Colorado City which, in fact, is in Arizona. This community is made up of fundamentalist Mormons who differ from "mainstream" Mormons in a number of ways, including their practice of polygamy. The subjects who are in power have allegedly taken property from the victims who make up approximately 20% of the community. It is noted these 20% are a dissident minority and due to subjects' status, it may have been under color of the law.

\*17. Indices: (check one) ☐ negative ☐ positive (if positive explain in body of report/LHM)**Remarks/Administrative**

Copies of LHM were provided Phoenix and USA, Phoenix. ★ U.S. Government Printing Office: 1983-398-654

**AIRTEL**

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 6/21/85

FROM: SAC, SALT LAKE CITY

ATTENTION: CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION  
CIVIL RIGHTS UNIT\* 1. \_\_\_\_\_ initial submission ☒ supplemental submission \_\_\_\_\_\* 2. File No: 44B-674 (include alpha)\* 3. Status: RUC (P - pending, P\* - pending inactive, C - closed, RUC - referred upon completion)\* 4. Title: LEROY S. JOHNSON; RULON T. JEFFES; UNSUBS; UTAH

- VICTIM/COMPLAINANT;

VICTIM/COMPLAINANT;

- VICTIM/COMPLAINANT;

VICTIM/COMPLAINANT;

- VICTIM/COMPLAINANT;

VICTIM/COMPLAINANT;

UNKNOWN VICTIMS;

CIVIL RIGHTS

(OO: Phoenix)

Re: Salt Lake City FD-610 dated 1/28/85.

5. If Title changed, show previous Title:

\* 6. TYPE OF CASE: (check one)

- |   |                                      |                                   |   |
|---|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| A. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CR | D. <input type="checkbox"/> CRA64-PE | G. <input type="checkbox"/> CRIPA | J. <input type="checkbox"/> FRS               |
| B. <input type="checkbox"/> CRA64-E       | E. <input type="checkbox"/> CRA64-PF | H. <input type="checkbox"/> DIH   | K. <input type="checkbox"/> ISS               |
| C. <input type="checkbox"/> CRA64-PA      | F. <input type="checkbox"/> CREL     | I. <input type="checkbox"/> ECOA  | L. <input type="checkbox"/> PRIV. ACT - CRIM. |

b6  
b7C

7. AGENCY TYPE: (check one)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| A. <input type="checkbox"/> City-County Jail    | F. <input type="checkbox"/> Sheriff's Office          |
| B. <input type="checkbox"/> Federal Agency      | G. <input type="checkbox"/> State Police - Hwy Patrol |
| C. <input type="checkbox"/> Police Department   | H. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other          |
| D. <input type="checkbox"/> Prison/Penitentiary | I. <input type="checkbox"/> Not pertinent             |
| E. <input type="checkbox"/> Private Security    |   |

8. AGENCY NAME: Fundamental LDS Church (20) STATE: AZ (use 2-char. abbrev.)  
(omit if "Not pertinent" checked above):

\* 9. ACTION: UACB;

- |                       |   |  |   |
|-----------------------|---|--|---|
| (check if applicable) | A. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LHM enclosed | C. <input type="checkbox"/> Report enclosed        | E. <input type="checkbox"/> No further action being taken |
|                       | B. <input type="checkbox"/> LHM being submitted     | D. <input type="checkbox"/> Report being submitted | F. <input type="checkbox"/> FD-376 (enclosure to LHM)     |

\* 10. Further action: A. ☐ investigation instituted  
B. ☐ investigation continuing  
C. ☒ investigation completed

11. Copy of above submitted to: (check as many as applicable)

- |  |
|--|
| A. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> USA <u>SU, PX</u> |
| B. <input type="checkbox"/> Secret Service               |
| C. <input type="checkbox"/> BATF                         |

(15) (other - specify)

- 2 - Bureau (Enc. 3) (44-102945)  
2 - Phoenix (44B-1609) (Enc. 3)  
2 - Salt Lake City  
(1 - 44B-674)  
(1 - 196B-860)

JCC:ybe  
(6)

1 CRD, 1 CRU

ATTN:

OYO (B)

INIT: ARE:km

Enclosures

53 OCT 16 1985

DATE: 7-10-85

(ATTACHMENT A)

12. SUBJECTS (number):
- |                       |            |              |
|-----------------------|------------|--------------|
| A. _____ Amer. Indian | _____ Male | _____ Female |
| B. _____ Asian        | _____ Male | _____ Female |
| C. _____ Black        | _____ Male | _____ Female |
| D. _____ Hispanic     | _____ Male | _____ Female |
| E. _____ White        | _____ Male | _____ Female |
| F. _____ Other        | _____ Male | _____ Female |

If "Other" please specify: \_\_\_\_\_ (15)

13. VICTIMS (number):
- |                       |            |              |
|-----------------------|------------|--------------|
| A. _____ Amer. Indian | _____ Male | _____ Female |
| B. _____ Asian        | _____ Male | _____ Female |
| C. _____ Black        | _____ Male | _____ Female |
| D. _____ Hispanic     | _____ Male | _____ Female |
| E. _____ White        | _____ Male | _____ Female |
| F. _____ Other        | _____ Male | _____ Female |

If "Other" please specify: \_\_\_\_\_ (15)

14. Other descriptive data re victims: \_\_\_\_\_ not applicable

If applicable (number):

A. _____ under 18	C. _____ handicapped
B. _____ over 62	D. _____ institutionalized

15. Matter type (use best description, check more than one if applicable):

- A. ☐ brutality type \_\_\_\_\_ (15) (i.e., shooting; beating)
- B. ☐ nonbrutality
- C. ☐ death of victim
- D. ☐ suicide method \_\_\_\_\_ (15) (i.e., hanging, slashed wrist)
- E. ☐ known extremist group type \_\_\_\_\_ (15) (i.e., Klan, Nazi, JDL)
- F. ☐ suspected ext. group type \_\_\_\_\_ (15) (i.e., Klan, Nazi, JDL)
- G. ☐ cross burning
- H. ☐ migrant victim
- I. ☐ violence to property type \_\_\_\_\_ (15) (i.e., arson, shooting)
- J. ☐ ISS matter type \_\_\_\_\_ (i.e., peonage, enticement, servitude, other slavery)
- K. ☐ other explain \_\_\_\_\_ (25)

- \*16. Synopsis of Complaint - Date of initial complaint \_\_\_\_\_

#### ADMINISTRATIVE

On 6/6/85, U. S. Attorney BRENT D. WARD, Salt Lake City, Utah, requested that the six listed complainants be located and interviewed in detail, looking towards fraud violation via fraud by wire or mail. Therefore, a separate 196B-860 case has been opened by Salt Lake City Division to handle the specific fraud violation investigation.

- \*17. Indices: (check one) ☐ negative ☐ positive (if positive explain in body of report/LHM)

#### Remarks/Administrative

(see above)



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

Salt Lake City, Utah  
June 21, 1985

LEROY S. JOHNSON; RULON T. JEFFS;  
UNKNOWN SUBJECTS;

[REDACTED] - VICTIM/COMPLAINANT;  
[REDACTED] - VICTIM/COMPLAINANT;  
[REDACTED] VICTIM/COMPLAINANT;  
[REDACTED] - VICTIM/COMPLAINANT;  
[REDACTED] - VICTIM/COMPLAINANT;  
[REDACTED] - VICTIM/COMPLAINANT;

UNKNOWN VICTIMS;  
CIVIL RIGHTS

b6  
b7C

The following articles appeared in the Spectrum  
Newspaper, Cedar City, Utah:

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.



(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.) SPECTRUM  
CENTRAL CITY, VTDate: 4/28/85  
Edition:

Title:

Character:  
or  
Classification: SV 196B-860  
Submitting Office:

## Take it or leave it, warns polygamist prophet

© 1985 by Spectrum Publishing Co., Inc.  
All Rights Reservedby Loren Webb  
Staff Writer

COLORADO CITY, Ariz. — His voice ravaged by age and illness, polygamist prophet Leroy Johnson stood in church and told his faithful followers that non-believers must be "discouraged" and driven away.

Those who fight against the United Effort Plan (an organizational document under which members of the community function) are fighting against God "and they'd better look out," warned Johnson.

A taped transcript of Johnson's statement during Feb. 10 religious services held in the Colorado City Elementary, has been distributed by dissidents who are fearful of the inflammatory tone of some of the recent sermons preached there and of the violent nature of factions within the community.

"One must assume that resistance" by anyone "who is asked to leave, could result in a violent encounter," said Cyril Bradshaw, principal of the Colorado City Academy.

The UEP, a trust holds most of the property in Colorado City, Ariz., and Hildale, Utah, both communities which condone plural marriage.

Johnson, 96, told more than 300 people gathered in the north auditorium of the Edson P. Jessop Building that, "This ship that has been portrayed to us today is under fire — the United Effort Plan. I can't see who is in the room, but I hope

that there's someone here that will carry this message to the opposite people, because they haven't been men enough — haven't manhood enough to come out in the open and let us know who they

are. We know who some of them are, but we don't know who they all are."

Johnson, whose voice quivered and at times he gasped for breath as he said, "There is not going to be any deeds to any part of the United Effort Plan given to the enemy of the United Effort Plan. They can take it or leave it."

"It was given to us by the Lord for a protection for his people — his saints and I'm not afraid to speak in defense of it, because every man who has taken up his arms against the United Effort Plan and against this work that I profess to be the head of, they're fighting against God, not me, and they'd better look out because if they push it any farther God will lay a heavy hand on their shoulder and I'm not afraid to say it, because I have the spirit of God upon me and he's dictating my words at the present time."

(Continued on page 6)



Leroy Johnson

# •Polygamist prophet: disbelievers must be driven away

(Continued from page 1)

Johnson added, "They'd (the dissidents) better not push me any farther toward the wall, until I can get on my feet and get my people behind me and get the non-believers out of this place. I want them to get discouraged and leave right away, everyone."

He also warned "those who try to change the works of Joseph Smith — the words of Joseph Smith as are contained in the Doctrine & Covenants, had better walk carefully because the judgments of God are terrible when they come, upon any disobedient people."



Cyril Bradshaw

"The expulsion of the dissenters," said Bradshaw, "will leave only the 'cult' in the community to fill the political offices, to administer the law, to operate the public school, and at-

tempt to function as an isolated state within the states of Arizona and Utah; discriminating against the minority groups within the community," said Bradshaw. "This combining of church and state is outside the purposes of our federal constitution and the constitutions of the states."

Johnson's reference to having personal, present and continual communications with God is one of the primary characteristics of a "cult," added Bradshaw. He said they have a single leader with supernatural powers and/or a direct pipeline to God to exercise control over his subjects.

**"Priesthood Sunday"**  
Prefacing his remarks before Johnson spoke during the Feb. 10 meeting was UEP trustee Fred Jessop, who spoke from a three-foot stage to the congregation during "Priesthood Sunday."

Jessop, 65, along with new trustee, James K. Zitting, 32, a J & B Service employee, Rulon Jeffs of Sandy, Utah, a certified public accountant, and Leroy Johnson make up the governing body of the trust.

Jessop related how the United Order efforts within the LDS Church had failed to succeed in the past, "mostly because of the non-observance of the law of the gospel laid down by the Prophet Joseph, or the Lord through the Prophet Joseph."

"But in the latter days... the prophet has been inspired to set up a system that would last, that would succeed. Now this system that will succeed eliminates men, but not the system," he said.

"Now this is a system (UEP) that will succeed though men fail. And in as much as he (Johnson) has been challenged and threatened with

courts of law, and this is not the first time, we have to use the tools unconvinced people can be dealt with. So Uncle Roy has engaged the services and blessed the man, Charles Ditsch (a Phoenix attorney), to represent him through the law."

**Opposed UEP**  
Jessop then said that residents openly opposing the UEP and Johnson had hired St. George attorney R. Clayton Huntsman to represent them.

Jessop then read, in its entirety, a Jan. 28 letter from Ditsch to Huntsman with regards to the UEP trust. Regarding the eviction of Cora Stubbs and her family and of Andrew Bistline and his family by the UEP, Ditsch stated that Stubbs had vacated her Colorado City home (in 1982) and notified Johnson of that fact by telephone.

He said reports were made to Johnson that the power had been disconnected, doors were open and odors of strong meat were evident from inside the house. Johnson sent several men to the house and they determined the house was in a state of disrepair and abandonment, Ditsch's letter states.

The letter also said Stubbs (a twice married plural wife) was served an eviction notice which gave her 30 days to remove her things from the property. The possessions were later moved to David Stubbs' home with help from members of the community. Cora was Stubbs' third wife.

When Bistline was served a similar notice to vacate, "he had for all intents and purposes completed a new residence in Fredonia, where he now lives," said Ditsch.

No rights violated  
The purpose of the notice was

merely to make sure that the home which he intended to vacate would be available for use by another community member within a reasonable period of time. "As housing has always been in short supply in Colorado City."

Ditsch said he saw no civil rights violations with regards to the evictions. "They were not forcible and under the terms of the trust, the parties resided on the premises only so long as such was determined to be proper by the trustees."

In both cases, Ditsch said, the residences were abandoned or the intention to abandon was expressed and the individuals voluntarily complied with the notice.

With regard to the fear Huntsman's clients have that they may be evicted since being taken off the list of UEP members by an amended affidavit of disclosure filed in Kingman, Ariz., Ditsch portrayed his clients as "peaceful people with primarily agrarian interests."

He said being on the beneficiary list doesn't make a person a beneficiary of the trust nor does being removed from it eliminate one from being a beneficiary.

"The trust instrument speaks of members rather than beneficiaries and authorizes the trustees to render assistance to nonmembers as well as members of the trust," Ditsch said.

The UEP has served his clients well for over 40 years and if Huntsman's clients force a legal confrontation, "My clients will resist such actions for as long as it takes to protect and preserve their way of life," said Ditsch. "There will be no spoils for the victor in such a battle; however, my clients are convinced that they will prevail however, pain-

ful the victory."

**Lawsuit postponed**  
Huntsman said last week that the lawsuit "is on the backburner now." Although he is prepared to go ahead with the case on behalf of 10 plaintiffs, he said "my clients haven't given the green light. It doesn't appear any lawsuit will be filed in the very near future."

But Bradshaw says Ditsch is wrong, that his letter is fraught with errors and is in contradiction to the facts as attested to by affidavits submitted by those affected.

For instance, according to Colorado City resident Merrill Harker's affidavit, entry into Cora Stubbs' home was forced and possession taken without due process of law.

In addition, since Johnson is almost totally blind, and is "very hard of hearing, is essentially bedfast and is administered strong analgesics to relieve pain from shingles, is given reports by his 'trusted' lieutenants and acts upon the data and the suggestions given by them," he has no first hand knowledge of anything going on in the community or with the UEP, said Bradshaw.

He also noted that no magistrate was involved in the evictions, that the eviction notices were issued by the Mohave County Sheriff's Dept.

**Ousted by UEP authorities**  
Bistline, said Bradshaw, was in fact building a home in Fredonia, but it was far from completion when he was summarily ousted by the UEP authorities.

He planned to have it finished in one more year and enroll his children in the Colorado City Elementary during the interim, but was served with an eviction and was required to move into a home having no windows or

doors in it, no water, sewer or power connections and the roof was incomplete.

He received no help from the UEP to relocate, to get his house in Fredonia ready. Instead, it was members of a Baptists church who came to his aid after being treated so "uncharitable." No help was offered by Grand Bistline's polygamist neighbors in spite of the fact that he was a UEP beneficiary at the time and had served diligently for years to build up the trust with donated labor, said Bradshaw.

He also contended that civil rights violations have occurred in that none of these evictions came about.

As for Ditsch's reference that the community is peace loving, Bradshaw said there was a "propensity to violence expressed and practiced by certain factions within this community."

**Violent society**  
"It appears that the 'peaceful' society of 1953 has been replaced by a violent society in 1985," said Bradshaw.

He also challenged Ditsch's statement that being on the list does not make one a beneficiary nor does removal from the list eliminate a person as a beneficiary if they are in fact a beneficiary. Bradshaw said that apparently nullifies the purposes of the Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended, which required the disclosure of beneficiary of a trust.

Bradshaw said the fact that 184 persons were acknowledged as UEP beneficiaries in 1976 and yet 117 who were disfranchised without their knowledge in 1983 is not within the terms of the trust instrument.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.) *SPECTRUM  
CEDAR CITY, UT.*Date: *SUN. 5/19/85*  
Edition:

Title:

Character:  
or  
Classification:  
Submitting Office:*SU 196B-860*

Indexing:

**Comp. time pay****Deputy resigns,  
collects \$70,000**

COLORADO CITY, Ariz. — Polygamist Samuel Stevens Barlow, 48, a deputy sheriff for the Mohave County Sheriff's Dept., officially resigned late last week, said Lt. Clark Morrell.

Morrell said the 12-year veteran law enforcement officer turned in all of his equipment to the sheriff's department and sometime between May 13 and May 15, and was given a check for the 4,000 hours of compensatory time he had built up since coming to work full-time on July 1, 1973.

County Manager Bill Bixby said Barlow was paid approximately \$70,000 in severance pay which included the compensatory time, sick leave and accrued vacation time.

Bixby said the County Board of Supervisors met on May 6 and at that time declined to discuss any settlement to change county policy, which is that employees get all compensatory time upon leaving the county.

Barlow, who has three wives, announced his intention to resign on Feb. 13 and had been taking vacation time off and was working Saturdays and Sundays only, said a sheriff's spokesman.

However, he did not qualify for the state's retirement plan, which requires law enforcement officers to work for 20 years before becoming eligible for the pension plan, said an Arizona newspaper.

He had been associated with the sheriff's department for 21 years, the past 12 as a full-time deputy.

Deputy Larry Johnson, nephew of Fundamentalist prophet Leroy Johnson, has replaced Barlow in Colorado City.

Steve Bailey, the deputy assigned to the Arizona Strip, works out of St. George and covers the Litterfield, Ariz., area. Their immediate supervisor is Lt. Dan Bishop.

*orig sent to  
62*

By Colorado City hierarchy

# Johnson told to take long-haired sons, get out

## Polygamist prophet orders area native to move away

by Loren Webb  
Staff Writer

COLORADO CITY, Ariz. — He was born more than half a century ago inside a tent pitched beneath a large cottonwood tree in what is now Colorado City, and the town still feels like home to Earl Johnson.

But polygamist leaders there say he no longer fits in. They'd like Johnson and his two sons, Robert, 20, and Mike, 18, to get out of town. In fact, Johnsons been told that all three should move to Fredonia.

Less than subtle requests that the Johnsons move on are the latest in a series of about a half dozen similar incidents for other families during the past two years. People who no longer fit into the religious enclave are driven away, through outright evictions served by sheriff's deputies or by painful social ostracizing from their neighbors.

For Johnson, 51-years-old and divorced, pointed requests that he move away are particularly hard because of his deep-seated roots in the community.

### Power of dictator

But, he says, his sons have long hair and don't conform to the letter with all standards laid down by religious leaders who oversee the United Effort Plan (UEP) under which the town operates. That's apparently enough, he says, for the town leadership to tell him to remove his mobile home from the UEP-owned lot on 48 S. Richard Road.

The pressure started one Saturday in mid-February, Johnson said, when polygamist Mohave County Sheriff's Deputy Sam Barlow, along with Deputy Larry Johnson, a nephew of fundamentalist prophet LeRoy (Uncle Roy) Johnson, appeared at his door.

Uncle Roy wanted to see Earl, Barlow said. A request like that isn't easily ignored. Uncle Roy is considered by the polygamist faithful in Colorado City and neighboring Hildale as a prophet of God. As such,

he heads their fundamentalist Mormon-oriented church and wields the power of a dictator in virtually all community affairs.

Earl telephoned Uncle Roy's residence for an appointment but the aging prophet wasn't available until the latter part of the month. When the meeting rolled around, Earl Johnson said he discussed the status of his two sons with Uncle Roy.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Uncle Roy suggested he move the sons to Fredonia. The prophet paused a minute, then said Earl should vacate, too.

Moving would take some time to arrange, Earl replied and the meeting ended amicably.

### 'Just hang up'

But two weeks later, Deputy "Sam came over to my house and made offers to furnish a truck and people to haul all my stuff off," said Earl Johnson.

"I felt like I was being pushed, but I said 'no' I'd like to work things myself and move myself."

A few days later, said Earl, he stopped at the J&B Service station (General Cooperative Association) where Nephi Barlow pointedly asked how the moving was coming.

"I said 'pretty slow,'" said Earl.

While the inquiries don't sound strong in the re-telling, in actual fact — taking in the voice inflections, together with the background and understanding how the leadership's lieutenants operate in the community — they were intimidating, Earl said.

Asked about the request that Earl and his sons get out of town, Leroy Johnson, in a brief telephone interview, responded, "Just hang up. I'm not saying anything at all."

Sam Barlow was unavailable for comment.

The church hierarchy hasn't really treated him bad, said Earl, but it's become apparent that they're "pushing off the easy ones" like himself, getting ready to face headon more strident dissidents living in the community.

"I'm not going to get them upset, but I don't want

force put on me," said Earl. What happened to him is similar to the Mormons being evicted from Missouri during the 1830s, he added.

### Life in community

"It's a more mild case than that (the Missouri incident) was, but who knows but what it could be like that," said Earl. "If this community had the brotherly love that it claimed to have, they'd look into getting the reasoning for the way someone does what they do."

Earl, himself a nephew of Uncle Roy, says he believes basically in the prevalent "fundamentalist" religious philosophy like most everyone else in the closed, twin cities of Hildale, Utah and Colorado City, Ariz.

He just wishes the leadership would practice what they've been preaching. Many times, said Earl, he's heard Uncle Roy and community leaders Alma Timpson and J. Marion Hammon say if there was anything they said that conflicted with what the scriptures (Bible, Book of Mormon, Doctrine & Covenants and Pearl of Great Price) teach, to take what's in the scriptures.

While contemplating where to move with his sons and how soon they must actually get out of Colorado City, Earl reflected on his life in the polygamist community.

He was born in a tent under a cottonwood tree near where Sam Barlow's present home stands, to Price and Helen Hull Johnson in 1933. Earl said it was a slow life growing up in the little desert town, known in those days as Short Creek.

During the 1930s, all Short Creek residents, with the exception of the Lauritzen family, were excommunicated from the Rockville branch of the LDS Church because of their practice of polygamy, he said.

But the residents of Short Creek felt their own leaders still held the priesthood authority and their local organization had the church offices still in place and they continued with church functions.

Continued on page B-3



COLORADO CITY, Ariz. — Earl Johnson says he was asked by the religious hierarchy to vacate a United Effort Plan lot he has lived on since 1977, because two of his sons wear their hair long.

-5-

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.) *SPRINGFIELD*  
 Date: *5/26/85*  
 Edition:  
 Title:  
 Character: *SV 1968-860*  
 or  
 Classification:  
 Submitting Office:  
 Indexing:



## • Polygamist leaders tell resident to leave

Continued from page B-1

Joseph Musser, John Y. Barlow and Ianthus Barlow arrived to direct affairs. John Y. Barlow later became the most visible leader in 1935-36, said Johnson.

When Price Johnson and Carling Spencer were arrested for polygamist offenses by Mohave County Sheriff Elmo Bollinger, Earl said John Y. went to Salt Lake City to avoid being arrested.

He said he could vaguely remember when his father returned from serving a prison term. The four children, with their mother, stayed at the Charles Owens home in Salt Lake City.

### Back to Colorado City

Price, however, broke with the Colorado City leaders, said Earl, because while he was in prison, rather than proving up on his homestead ranch so it wouldn't fall back to the government, polygamist leaders allegedly did nothing except use his plows and wagons on their own farms. They took his livestock, also. When Price returned, most of the farm implements were worn out, Earl said.

His father later worked for Roy Wilson in Vero, then moved his family to Panaca, Nev., when Earl was five. They later returned to Short Creek.

On Jan. 1, 1944, the family moved to Lee's Ferry on the Colorado River, where they lived six months, then picked up and settled at Littlefield, Ariz. A subsequent move was made to Huntington, Utah where Price worked in the coal mines.

In 1973, his father moved to Moccasin, Ariz., where he lived until his death last year. In 1972, with seven children between them, Earl's wife, Anna Ames, left Earl "because her family felt I wasn't treating her like I should."

So, with a "wild" stepson, Earl subsequently moved from his Salt Lake City home to Moccasin in 1975. Two years later, having had problems with the Mormon Church, he moved to Colorado City.

Uncle Roy told him when he got a trailer house, he'd give Earl a lot to move onto. Esther Black then informed Earl that a son of hers, Lammert Black, had a trailer and Earl could have it if he took over the payments.

It was parked at Cane Beds so Earl

moved it next to Esther's place. He later got with Edson Jessop and was assigned to the lot he presently resides on.

At that time, Earl was working for the U.S. Aspen company in Fredonia which cut aspen trees to make one way pallets. He later worked for Cane Beds resident Barry Anderson of West Coast Fence Co., then hired on with Kaibab Industries, where he is currently employed, on Aug. 20, 1979.

Earl said he faithfully attended his church meetings in Colorado City and minded his own business until the session with Uncle Roy.

Now asked to leave, Earl feels he should get some compensation for the pecan and peach trees that dot his premises, along with the sewer and water system and a fence that he installed.

### Long hair issue

He wouldn't have minded if he'd been asked to leave because of not living according to precepts laid down by the hierarchy. "But they haven't said anything except pay your taxes (\$10 a month) to Fred Jessop."

Dissidents in the community believe that if one person is pushed out, then it would lead to another one until a domino effect occurred.

"The dissidents aren't really fighting them (the UEP) as much as they think they are," said Earl. "The only thing that got them (the dissidents) stirred up was when the UEP eliminated 117 beneficiaries" from its trust, filed with the states of Arizona and Utah. Included in the deleted names were women and widows who have no financial alternative.

Yet, in his own case, the long hair issue seems to be the only reason town elders want to get rid of him, he said. His boys sometime walk the streets at night "and I've fought that, but they don't do anything else that should cause concern," Earl added.

When dances are held in town, said Earl, the men aren't welcome unless they wear ties. The Hammons and their followers have their dances at the Colorado City Academy while the Barlows and their followers have their functions at the Colorado City Elementary, he added.

"If you support the academy," he said, "you are totally against Leroy, but I can't see it. At both places, they

always open with prayer and they both mention Uncle Roy."

He said on one occasion individuals guarded the door at the elementary on "priesthood Sunday," while looking for "long hairs, beards and mustaches."

"If you go to church, you have to wear a tie. Long sleeve shirts are mandatory." Women usually wear long sleeve dresses with hems that reach below the knees. Makeup on women also seems to be taboo.

### Forced to leave

People are allowed to watch video movies, however. Some leaders frown on television, said Earl, but

lots of people have it. Ironically, a lot of people who fought against having television service, now have antennas on their houses.

Earl says the new general store run by Joe Barlow, has also improved things. They are doing like they should have done years ago, he said. "They are keeping the shelves stocked for once. It used to be, if they didn't have it, you didn't need it."

Coupled with his hope that the store succeeds, Earl also hopes he won't be forced to leave.

"I want to kind of leave on my own — not be picked up and pushed out. They should be my friends."

(Indicate page, name of  
newspaper, city and state.)

*SPECTRUM*  
*CEDAR CITY, UT.*

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Date:  
Edition:

*6/12/85*

Title:

Character:  
or

Classification:

Submitting Office: *SU 196B-860*

Indexing:

## NEWSLINE

### *LeRoy Johnson turns 97*

COLORADO CITY, Ariz. — Fundamentalist Prophet Leroy Johnson turned 97 years old today and to celebrate his birthday, some 1,000 persons were expected to attend an informal gathering at the Colorado City Elementary school.

Well-wishers, many of them polygamists from southern Utah and northern Arizona area, as well as from Salt Lake City and as far away as Canada were expected to be on hand at the informal gathering, said the Twin City Courier.

Johnson was born June 12, 1888.

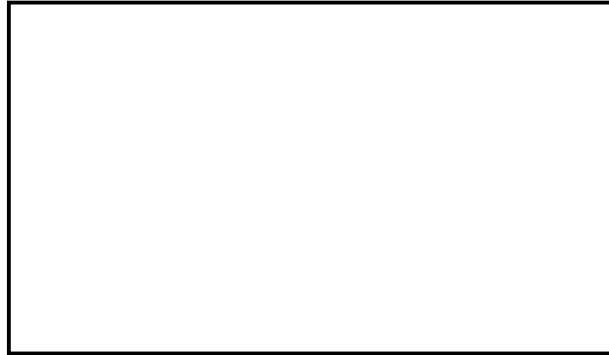
LEROY S. JOHNSON;  
ET AL;  
CIVIL RIGHTS

On June 6, 1985, U. S. Attorney BRENT D. WARD  
furnished the self-explanatory letter and material that he  
received from Senator JAKE GARN's Office, which is as follows:

unethical treatment of those evicted and disfranchised.

If you should like a copy of any of the documents cited, we would be happy to furnish them to you, and we will continue to send pertinent materials as they appear.

We would appreciate any suggestions you may have pertaining to our problem, and our course of action.



b6  
b7C

P.S. To help insure our safety, please address any correspondence to:



RECEIVED

FEB 28 9 25 AM '85

Colorado City, Arizona 86021

UNITED STATES  
ATTORNEY  
DISTRICT OF UTAH

No man escapes when Freedom fails.

The Best Men rot in filthy jails.

And those who cried "Appease! Appease!"

Are hanged by those they tried to please.

Open Letter to the Former Beneficiaries  
of the United Effort Plan

Brethren (and Sisters?):

Many of us were invited into the community to help build this community and consecrated our time and talents toward that end, supposing that our efforts would be beneficial in helping establish the Kingdom of God. All that we brought with us was invested in the "United Effort", by improving the lot that was assigned to us, by furnishing materials and labor in the various public-works projects that the Priesthood sponsored, etc.

Many of us consecrated lands and other valuable considerations to this same cause, fully considering that our consecration (which was expected by the trustees of the United Effort Plan) would resound to our good.

In 1976 a document was prepared and signed [redacted]

[redacted] all stating under oath that each and all of them were trustees of the United Effort Plan. Exhibit B of this Affidavit of Disclosure lists the Beneficiaries of the Trust (as per paragraph 4). This was sworn to be true and signed by the above [redacted] before William W. Shapley, Notary Public, on October 16, 1976. These designated beneficiaries appear in the left column of the included list.

An Amended Affidavit of Disclosure was prepared to set aside the original Affidavit. This document was signed before the same Notary Public, William W. Shapley, on November 12, 1983 by Leroy S. Johnson and Rulon Jeffs (without the knowledge and consent of the other trustees acknowledged under oath). This amended document also amends the list of beneficiaries. The right column on the attached list denotes these "updated" beneficiaries. Please note that over 115 of the original beneficiaries have been deleted from the original list, and some others added. To which camp have you been assigned?

UNITED EFFORT PLAN

BENEFICIARY LISTS

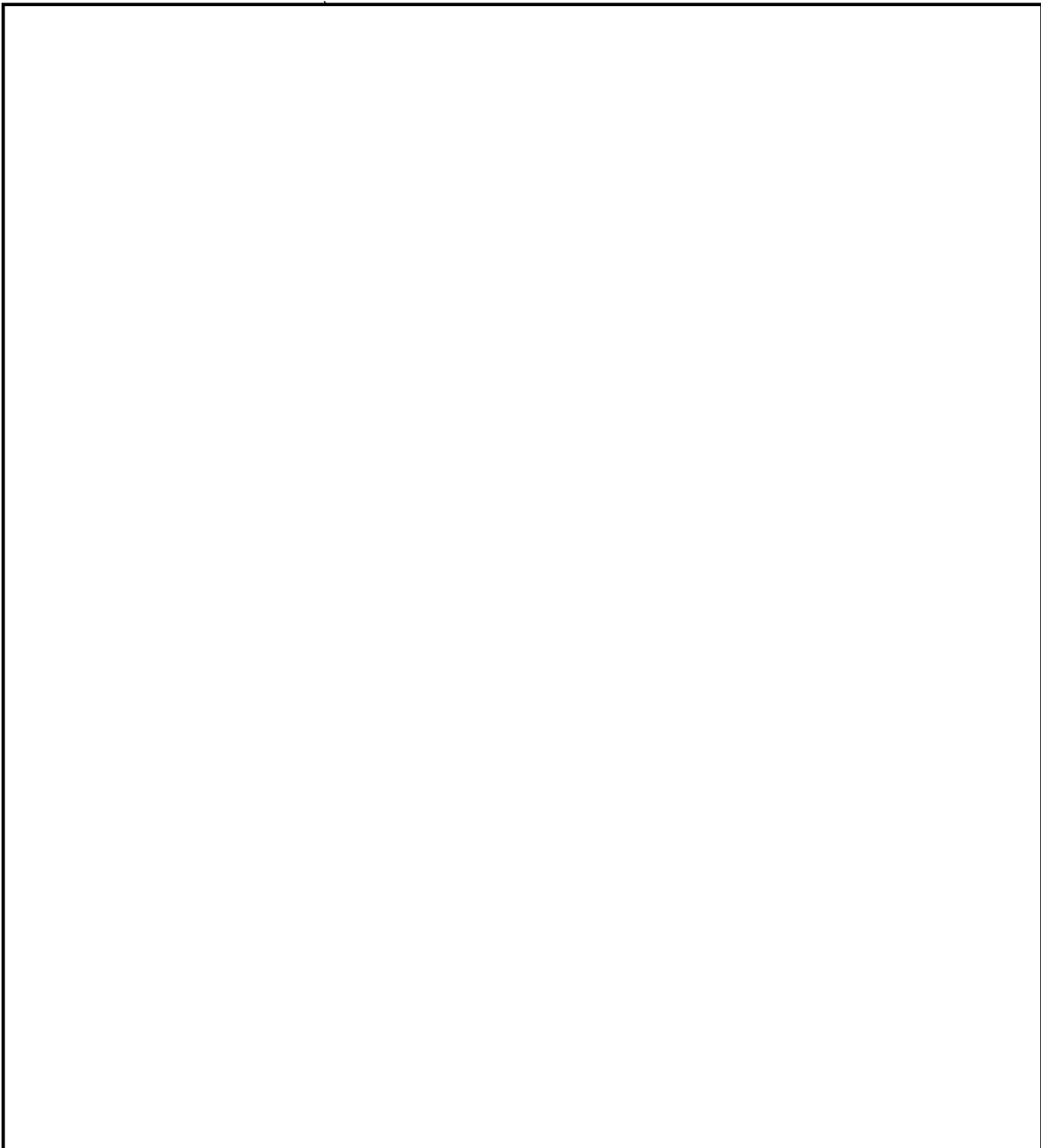
ORIGINAL - October 16, 1976

vs

AMENDED - November 12, 1983

Original

Amended



b6  
b7C

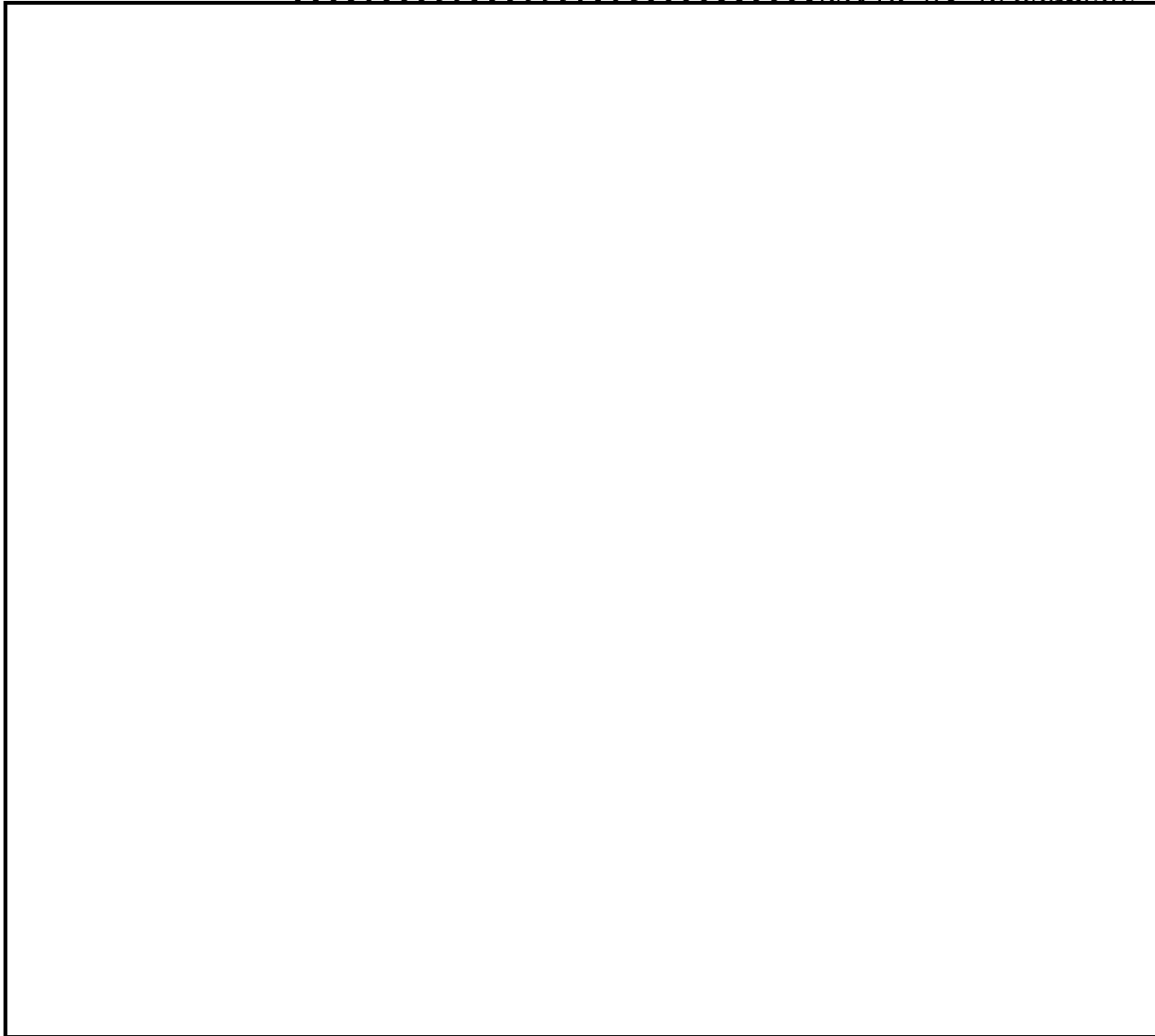
Leonard Black (deceased).....



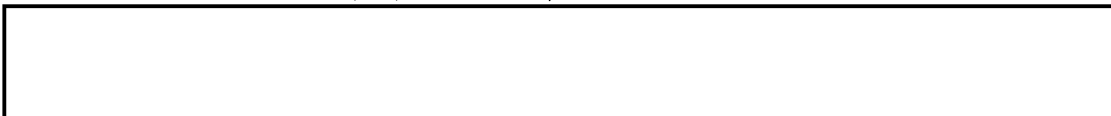
b6  
b7C

Constance Bradshaw (widow) (deceased).....

.....David J. Broadbent

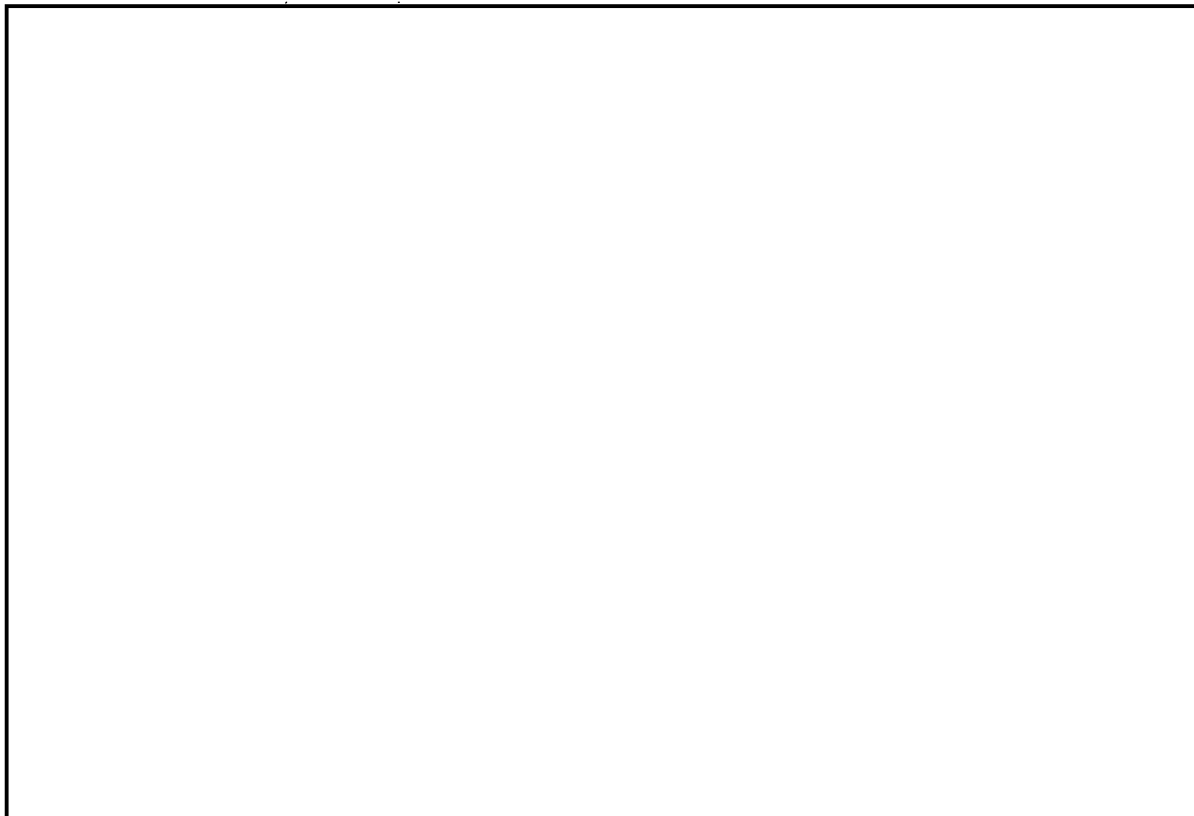


Hilda Dutson (widow) (deceased).....



Mary Fischer (widow) (deceased).....

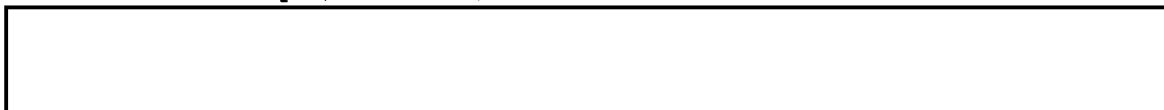




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b7C

Dwayne N. Jessop (deceased).....

Edson P. Jessop (deceased).....

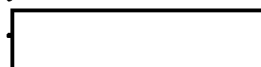


George M. Jessop (deceased).....



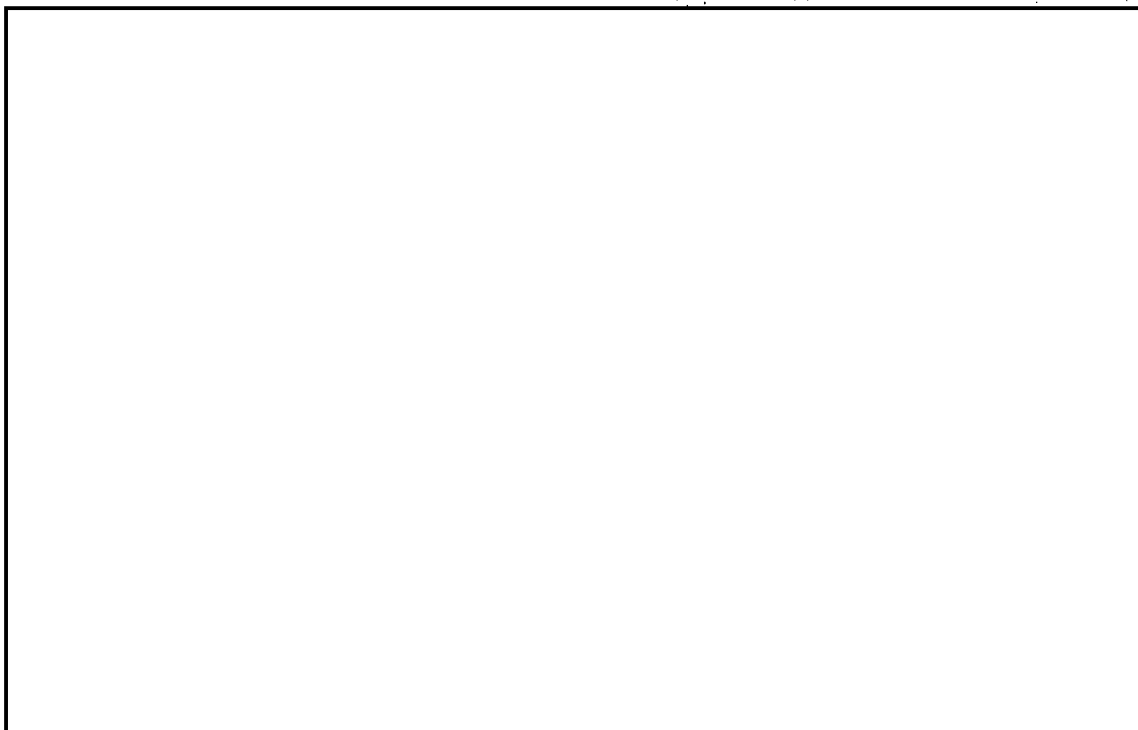
Richard S. Jessop (deceased).....

.....

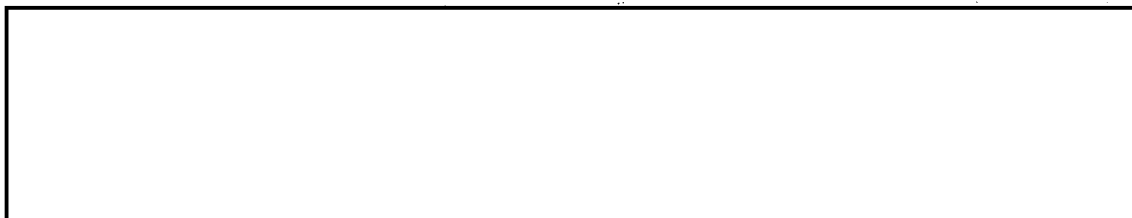




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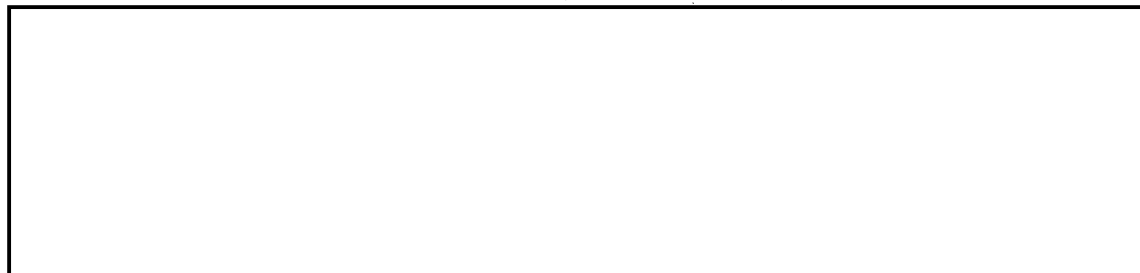
Warren E. Johnson (deceased).....  
Charles B. Knudson (deceased).....



Guy H. Musser (deceased).....



Melbourne O. Richter (deceased).....





b6  
b7C

Lawrence Stubbs (deceased).....



Elberta Wyler (deceased).....



BEWARE OF THOSE WHO HAVE A LITTLE AUTHORITY, AS THEY  
SUPPOSE, FOR THEY WILL EXERCISE UNRIGHTEOUS DOMINION.

RECEIVED  
FEB 28 9 28 AM '85

UNITED STATES  
ATTORNEY  
DISTRICT OF UTAH

The report has been circulating that [ ] hastily compiled the 1983 amended affidavit of beneficiaries to comply with a 2-year updating requirement pertaining to Arizona trust laws.

If the list of beneficiaries must be renewed/revised every 2 years to meet Arizona requirements, why were no new disclosures filed between 1976 and 1983? (time lapse of 7 years!!) And were the trustees in violation for five years by not complying with this "alleged" Arizona statute?

If those who compiled the list were hard put for names to use for the 1983 disclosure, why did they not refer to the 1976 list?

And if the list was so hastily compiled by [ ] why does the 1983 affidavit have the stamp of [ ] and the signatures of Leroy S. Johnson and Rulon T. Jeffs?

Truman has been quoted to have said, "Anyone who is living on UEP property is automatically a beneficiary." Can we depend on the validity of this statement in light of the volatile and unstable conditions that follow.

- A. The recent doctrinal changes.
- B. The shifts in the hierarchy.
- C. The policy changes that are overwhelming us.
- D. The lack of charity as a public policy.
- E. Greed has replaced benevolence.
- F. Fear is rampant due to the recent predictions of judgments and desolation.
- G. When people can arbitrarily be evicted from their homes on trust property without due process.
- H. When common sense, reason, and fairness seem to have vanished from our thought processes.

MOST OF US ARE TRADITION-BOUND PARASITES, PARROTING OF WHAT WE  
HAVE BEEN TAUGHT. WE HAVE BEEN SO CONDITIONED THAT WE HAVE NO IDEA  
THAT IT IS NECESSARY TO PIONEER TRUTHS FOR OURSELVES.

The ultimate in joy and freedom which men seek consists of the power of the Priesthood and the opportunity to use that power to increase the freedom of others.

This power and opportunity will be denied to us to the same extent that we fail to overcome the almost universal disposition to destroy each other's freedom by exercising unrighteous dominion.

Does a different moral law apply when men act in concert than when men act alone?

When we use force upon each other through government, either civil or ecclesiastical, we do so without fear of retaliation, so conscience alone remains to restrain us.

One of the fundamental principles of the gospel is the freedom of agency, and it is very essential to man's salvation. This also becomes a measuring rod wherewith to judge the actions of men in governing positions.

Freedom is the one indispensable element of joy. Misery is an inevitable consequence of slavery, and no intelligent person can be convinced to the contrary.

Satan's plan, the destruction of free agency, is very effectively accomplished by destroying the right to own and control property.

Our survival depends upon access to such things as food, clothing, and shelter. The right and control of property permits us to increase our physical and mental powers almost without limit. By utilizing tools, machinery and equipment, we are able to successfully supply these necessities for ourselves, so long as we have initiative and enticement.

If you deny a person access to the necessities of life, of course he will die. If you deny him these necessities unless he does what you say, you can make him your slave. A power over a man's subsistence amounts to a power over his will.

It is clear that the right and control of property is a basic element of freedom. It is as vital as life and liberty, neither of which are of value without it.

When we are deprived of this element, we have been denied a basic freedom, and the laws of God are violated. On the other hand, when this freedom exists, we use the strength of our minds and bodies to organize wealth and provide ourselves and others with the necessities of life, or the means of achieving life's goals, and are obeying God's commandments to work and be charitable with what we produce.

First we discovered that an Amended Affidavit of Disclosure was submitted, signed by two [ ] who were acknowledged trustees on the original Affidavit of Disclosure. Each acknowledged [ ] as trustees, as shown from the document: "RULON JEFFS, LEROY S. JOHNSON, [ ]

[ ] each being first duly sworn, deposes and says as follows: . . . 2) That Each of the affiants is one of the Trustees of the United Effort Plan, a common law trust, . . ." Only two of the four living trustees acted (in secret) in November 1983, disfranchising over 115 beneficiaries named on the original list, apparently without any concern for the plight of those that they disfranchised.

On August 31, 1984, over nine months since disfranchising him, (his name and [ ] were removed from the list of beneficiaries) [ ] was required to resign from the board of trustees of the United Effort Plan, without calling the previously acknowledged trustee, [ ] to the meeting. When asked about this action, the secretary of the United Effort Plan trust, Rulon Jeffs, stated that an error had been made in including three of the [ ] acknowledged trustees, and that had been corrected. This occurred on September 3. On September 4, 1984, the Second Amended Affidavit of Disclosure, "correcting" the error was signed by the president and secretary. It was filed September 5. Another Amended Affidavit of Disclosure!

The Third Amended Affidavit of Disclosure records [ ] [ ] resignation, and the installation of the new trustee - who else but [ ] Now he has that which he has spoiled for these many years!

Heaven help us! We cannot come into this life without going through [ ] We cannot leave this life without going through [ ] We cannot have a social without going through [ ] Now he also "owns" the land we live on!

Good politicking, [ ]

b6  
b7C

SECOND AMENDED AFFIDAVIT OF DISCLOSURE

STATE OF ARIZONA )  
County of Mohave ) ss.

LEROY S. JOHNSON and RULON JEFFS, each being first duly sworn, deposes and says as follows:

1. That pursuant to the provisions of Section 33-401 Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended, an Affidavit of Disclosure was executed and recorded in Mohave County, Arizona, in Book 355, page 818. Said Affidavit of Disclosure was amended by an Amended Affidavit of Disclosure recorded in said county in Book 979, page 741.
2. That the original Affidavit of Disclosure recorded in Book 355, page 818, was incorrect in that it listed as trustees Guy Musser, Richard S. Jessop and Alma Timpeon, none of which persons were ever appointed trustees of The United Effort Plan, a common law trust, but were erroneously included as trustees in the original Affidavit of Disclosure.
3. That this Second Amended Affidavit of Disclosure is being recorded to correct the erroneous inclusion of the trustees as of June 22, 1976. That as of said date, the trustees of The United Effort Plan, a common law trust, were Leroy S. Johnson, Rulon Jeffs and J. Marion Hammon and no other person.
4. That this Second Amended Affidavit is made for the purpose of correcting the original Affidavit of Disclosure



and for the purpose of complying with the above-referenced Arizona Revised Statute and for no other purpose.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the above officers have executed this affidavit for the purposes hereinabove set forth.



*Leroy S. Johnson*  
LEROY S. JOHNSON, President  
*Rulon Jeffs*  
RULON JEFFS, Secretary

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 4<sup>th</sup> day of September, 1984.

My commission expires:

July 9, 1988

*[Signature]*  
Notary Public

-2-

BOOK 1052 PAGE 676

CHARLES A. DITICH  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
200 East Brown Street  
Prescott, Arizona 86301

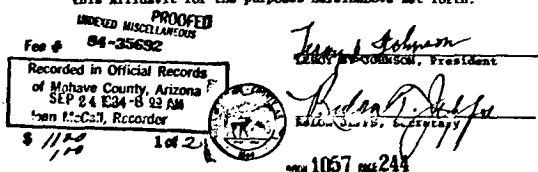
THIRD AMENDED AFFIDAVIT OF DISCLOSURE

STATE OF ARIZONA )  
County of Mohave ) ss.

LEROY S. JOHNSON, RULON JEFFS and FRED M. JESSOP, each being first duly sworn, deposes and says as follows:

1. That pursuant to the provisions of Section 33-401 Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended, an Affidavit of Disclosure was executed and recorded in Mohave County, Arizona, in Book 355, Page 818. Said Affidavit of Disclosure was amended by an Amended Affidavit of Disclosure recorded in said county in Book 979, Page 741. Said Affidavit of Disclosure was amended by a Second Amended Affidavit of Disclosure recorded in said county in Book 1052, Page 675.
2. That J. MARION HAMMON has resigned as a trustee of The United Effort Plan, a common law trust, and FRED M. JESSOP has been appointed as a trustee of said trust.
3. That this Third Amended Affidavit of Disclosure is made for the purpose of setting forth the names of the trustees as of the date hereof, said trustees being LEROY S. JOHNSON, RULON JEFFS and FRED M. JESSOP.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the above officers have executed this Affidavit for the purposes hereinabove set forth.



*Fred M. Jessop*  
FRED M. JESSOP

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 18<sup>th</sup> day of September, 1984.

My commission expires:

12-28-87

*Marvett C. Carling*  
Notary Public

-20-

-2-

BOOK 1057 PAGE 245

b6  
b7C

Each individual is the owner of himself, the ruler of his own person. Preservation of this self-ownership is essential for the proper development and well-being of humanity. The human rights of the person are, in effect, a recognition of each person's inalienable property right over his own being; and from this property right stems his right to the material goods that he has produced. A human's right to personal freedom, then is his property right in himself,

The accumulation of property is no guarantee of the development of character, but the development of character or of any other good whatever, is impossible without property.

The criticisms against capital in the hands of those who have it, are doublefaced, and when turned about are nothing but demands for capital in the hands of those who have it not, in order that they may do with it what those who have it are now doing with it.

Property is the fruit of labor; property is desirable; is a positive good in the world. That some should be rich shows that others may become rich, and hence is just encouragement to industry and enterprise. He who is houseless should not pull down the house of another, (or have him evicted) but let him work diligently and build one for himself, thus by example assuring that his own shall be safe from violence when built.

What our generation has forgotten is that the system of private property is the most important guaranty of freedom, not only for those who own property, but scarcely less for those who do not. It is only because the control of the means of production is divided among many people acting independently that nobody has complete power over us, that we as individuals can decide what to do with ourselves. If all the means of production were vested in a single hand, whether it be nominally that of "society" as a whole or that of a dictator, whoever exercises this control has complete power over us.

The man who is not permitted to own is owned.

The solid foundations of liberty must rest upon individual character; which is also the only sure guaranty for social security and national progress. John Stuart Mill truly observes that "even despotism does not produce its worst effects so long as individuality exists under it; and whatever crushes individuality is despotism, by whatever name it be called.

The time has come for us to re-establish the rights for which we stand--to reassert our inalienable rights to human dignity, self-respect, self-reliance--to be again the kind of people who once made America great.

LEROY S. JOHNSON;  
ET AL;  
CIVIL RIGHTS

On June 6, 1985, a discussion was held between United States Attorney BRENT D. WARD and Special Agent [REDACTED] of the Salt Lake City Office of the FBI. The purpose of the discussion was to clarify the investigation and its scope being requested by the U. S. Attorney's Office, which was as follows:

1. To confirm instructions given by RULON T. JEFFS, Salt Lake City, Utah, to Attorney CHARLES A. DITSCH, Phoenix, Arizona, to cause filing of amended affidavits of disclosure at the Mohave County Recorder's Office, Kingman, Arizona, pertaining to the listing of trustees of the United Effort Plan and the deletion of over 115 officaries.

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b7C

2. Interview in detail complainants [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] to determine the exact representations, oral or written, made to them and by whom; when they deeded property to the UEP Trust; period of time during which they would have access to and benefit of the deeded property.

The thrust of the investigation would be to develop information identifying a scheme to defraud these individuals and others, which in part would consist of removing their names from the beneficiary list, which in effect, would be confiscating their property without due process. Some of these individuals have been evicted, removed, or barred from using the property they deeded to the UEP at the sufferance of LEROY S. JOHNSON, also known as "Uncle Roy". The fraud aspect would be the omission or false representation of material facts made to these complainants when they initially deeded their properties to the UEP. The investigation should focus on identifying mailings or the use of wire transmissions effecting the removal of beneficiaries from the trust.

The main issue appears to be a violation of civil rights of these complainants in the State of Arizona.



# Memorandum



WBR:BFK:ASG:vlk  
DJ 144-77-253

Subject Leroy S. Johnson; Rulon T. Jeffs,  
Unknown Subjects; [redacted] -  
Victim/Complainant; [redacted] -  
Victim/Complainant; et al.  
Victim/Complainant;  
Civil Rights

Date

JUN 25 1985

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

To Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

From Wm. Bradford Reynolds  
Assistant Attorney General  
Civil Rights Division

Reference is made to your field office file number 44B-674  
(Salt Lake City).

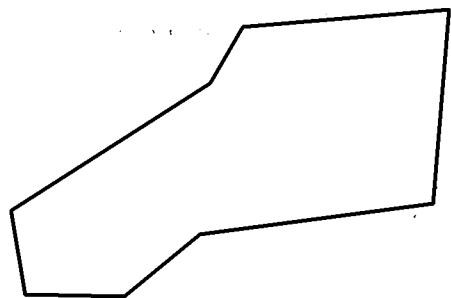
Please conduct the following additional investigation:

1. Interview [redacted]  
[redacted] Determine the circumstances of their evictions and who carried out the evictions. Determine all possible causes and motivations for such eviction. Such may include actions by the evictee, particularly actions related to religious beliefs. Determine when they were assigned their lots and what contributions to the Trust or improvements to the land they made.
2. Determine the political structure of the towns of Hilsdale, Utah, and Colorado City, Arizona. Ascertain who the significant political officeholders and city administrators are.
3. Determine the legal requirements for evicting a tenant in each jurisdiction. What city department oversees or enforces housing and eviction matters? Who are the city employees in that department? Who issues notices of eviction? Must there be any judicial involvement, and, if so, who would exercise that authority in those cities? Obtain the names of those people in these positions.

b6  
b7C

44-102945-6

2 cc SAC, PX  
2 cc SAC, SU  
1 cc CRU  
airtel dated 7/1/85  
ack: kml



TRANSMIT VIA: AIRTEL

CLASSIFICATION: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: 7/1/85

FROM: Director, FBI (44-102945)

1 -

TO: SAC, Phoenix (44B-1609)  
Salt Lake City (44B-674)

LEROY S. JOHNSON;  
RULON T. JEFFS;  
UNSUBS;

- VICTIM/COMPLAINANT  
VICTIM/COMPLAINANT

b6  
b7C

ET AL;  
CIVIL RIGHTS  
OO: PHOENIX

Re SU airtel/LHM dated 6/21/85.

Enclosed are two copies of a Department of Justice letter dated 6/25/85 requesting investigation in captioned case.

This request has been reviewed by the Civil Rights Unit, FBIHQ, and unless reasons exist to the contrary, you are to complete the requested investigation in accordance with the provisions of Section 44, Manual of Investigative Operations and Guidelines, and submit results within 21 workdays of the receipt of this communication.

~~Submit FBI 610 within 5 workdays of receipt of this airtel~~

Remarks:

MAILED 6

JUL 1 1985

FBI

DEK: kml  
(6)

44-102945-7

11 SEP 26 1985  
Enc. (2)

MAIL ROOM

FBI/DOJ

FBI

## TRANSMIT VIA:

☐ Teletype  
☐ Facsimile  
☒ AIRTEL

## PRECEDENCE:

☐ Immediate  
☐ Priority  
☐ Routine

## CLASSIFICATION:

☐ TOP SECRET  
☐ SECRET  
☐ CONFIDENTIAL  
☐ UNCLAS E F T O  
☐ UNCLAS

Date 9/30/85

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-102945)  
 FROM: SAC, PHOENIX (44B-1609) (C)

SUBJECT: LEROY S. JOHNSON;  
 RULON T. JEFFS;  
 UNSUBS;

[REDACTED] - VICTIM/COMPLAINANT;  
 VICTIM/COMPLAINANT;

ET AL;  
 CIVIL RIGHTS;  
 OO: PHOENIX

Re Bureau airtel to Phoenix and Salt Lake City  
 dated 7/1/85.

Enclosed for the Bureau are the original and two  
 copies of an LHM. Enclosed for the Salt Lake City Division  
 are two copies of an LHM.

2 - Bureau (Enc. 3)  
 2 - Salt Lake City (1 - 44B-674) (Enc. 2) (INFO)  
     (1 - 196B-860)  
 1 - Phoenix  
 WRT/db  
 (5)

1\*

11 JAN 3 1986

Approved: 

Transmitted

(Number)

(Time)

Per b6  
b7C



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

Phoenix, Arizona  
September 30, 1985

LEROY S. JOHNSON;  
RULON T. JEFFS;  
UNKNOWN SUBJECTS;  
[REDACTED] - VICTIM/COMPLAINANT;  
[REDACTED] VICTIM/COMPLAINANT;  
ET AL;  
CIVIL RIGHTS

On September 6, 1985, [REDACTED] was located and interviewed at his place of employment, Leo Pledger Construction Company, Pinetop, Arizona.

[REDACTED] he  
and his parents relocated to Colorado City, Arizona, when  
[REDACTED]

During March, 1976, [REDACTED] was assigned a quarter-acre building lot in Colorado City by the leadership of the Fundamentalist Mormon religion. The legal ownership of [REDACTED] building lot was retained by the United Effort Plan (UEP), a trust whose three trustees are drawn from the Fundamentalist Mormon leadership.

During the next seven years, [REDACTED] erected a partially finished single-family dwelling measuring 24' X 32', partially landscaped the building lot, and brought the balance of the building lot under cultivation. In March, 1983, with his home 80-90 percent complete, [REDACTED] left Colorado City and moved to Pinetop, Arizona.

[REDACTED] said that he departed Colorado City to pursue his carpentry trade in Eastern Arizona, where the pace of new home construction was more brisk. [REDACTED] also said

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

44-102945-8  
ENCLOSURE

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b7C

LEROY S. JOHNSON;  
RULON T. JEFFS;  
UNKNOWN SUBJECTS

that he voluntarily left his Colorado City home and that he was not pressured by the religious leadership to do so.

On August 26, 1985, [ ] was interviewed at her home, [ ] San Antonio, Texas.

In [ ] parents sent her to school in Colorado City, Arizona, where she remained until October 22, 1982.

In 1961, the religious leadership assigned [ ] and [ ], an unimproved building lot in Colorado City, Arizona. Ownership of the building lot was retained by the UEP.

Prior to the property assignment, [ ] donated his services as a plumber for one year to the religious community in Colorado City. Additionally, [ ] partially paid for water pipe laid through two blocks of [ ] in Colorado City. [ ] also donated six years of teaching services to the theatrical department of a local Colorado City school. During this six-year period, prior to the assignment of the lot, [ ] were tithed, contributing ten percent of their income and crops to the Fundamentalist Mormon Church.

b6  
b7C

Once the lot was assigned, [ ] with the help of neighbors, landscaped the lot and built a single family dwelling comprised of seven bedrooms and four bathrooms. The home is valued at \$150,000.

On October 7, 1977, [ ] to [ ]  
[ ] Immediately prior to [ ] the church leadership informed [ ] that the church would care for her family's needs [ ]

During the evening of October 22, 1982, [ ] returned to Colorado City from a trip to Northern Utah and found

LEROY S. JOHNSON;  
RULON T. JEFFS;  
UNKNOWN SUBJECTS

that the lock to the front door of her home had been changed. [ ] then entered her home through a back door and found several men in sleeping bags on the floor of her home. Cora identified the men as [ ]

[ ] and [ ] Refusing to leave the home, the men ordered [ ] off the property.

[ ] stated that [ ] does not know why [ ] was evicted from [ ] home. [ ] did mention, however, that [ ] received an eviction notice addressed to [ ] [ ], Salt Lake City, Utah, prior to [ ] return trip to Colorado City.

Following [ ] eviction, [ ] received information that the religious leaders of Colorado City suspected [ ] of removing kitchen cabinets from [ ] home, and for this reason, [ ] was evicted.

On July 18, 1985, [ ] was interviewed at his home, [ ], Fredonia, Arizona 86022.

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b7C

[ ] on [ ], [ ], and moved to Colorado City, Arizona, in 1945, where he lived until August 20, 1983, the date of his eviction.

During 1958 and 1959, the church leaders instituted two-year work missions among young male church members to save the financially troubled UEP. During a work mission, a male member would donate his labor to build homes, construct public works in Colorado City or Hildale, or work in church-owned industries.

In March, 1960, the church leadership called [ ] to serve a two-year work mission. [ ] consented and he then labored in the church sawmill until he was needed to clean streets and build homes in Colorado City.

Because of his faithful service, the Priesthood Committee of the church assigned [ ] an unimproved 7/8-acre building lot located at [ ]

LEROY S. JOHNSON;  
RULON T. JEFFS;  
UNKNOWN SUBJECTS

Arizona, in 1966. This committee also gave [ ] a young female named [ ] as a wife.

From 1966, [ ] made the following improvements on his building lot:

1. Graded and leveled the building lot;
2. Paid for culinary water and sewer hookups to his home;
3. Planted trees and lawn on the curtilage and cultivated the balance of the lot;
4. Built a 32' X 32' single-family home with basement; and
5. Paid yearly the property tax assessment of \$100 to \$250.

Besides the property improvements, [ ] worked eight more years at the church sawmill, receiving as compensation \$100 monthly, plus wood to heat his home.

Beginning in 1978, [ ] became disenchanted with the Fundamentalist Mormon religion. [ ] and he failed to attend weekly church and priesthood meetings. [ ] also permitted his oldest daughter to date males, thus violating the strict no-association custom practiced by members of the church.

These early frictions between [ ] and the church leaders later degenerated into major doctrinal differences where [ ] became very outspoken, openly ridiculing the church leadership.

During his final years of residence in Colorado City, relations between [ ] and the religious community were strained. Towards the end, [ ] his wife, and children, were ostracized from all church and community activities.

On August 10, 1983, [ ], Mohave County Deputy Sheriff, served a "Notice to Vacate" upon [ ] wife, [ ]. The "Notice to Vacate," signed by Leroy S. Johnson, President, and attested to by Rulon T. Jeffs, Secretary, revoked the earlier permission given to [ ] to occupy the property and required him to vacate the premises within thirty days.

b6  
b7C

LEROY S. JOHNSON;  
RULON T. JEFFS;  
UNKNOWN SUBJECTS

Without challenging the "Notice to Vacate," [redacted]  
and his family vacated their home shortly after receiving  
the notice, and then moved to their present home in [redacted]  
[redacted].

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[redacted] stated that when he was assigned his building  
lot, he knew that continued possession of the lot was dependent  
upon good membership in the Fundamentalist Mormon Church.



LEROY S. JOHNSON;  
RULON T. JEFFS;  
UNKNOWN SUBJECTS

#### POLITICAL STRUCTURE

Hildale, Utah, is an incorporated city comprised of 1,500 residents and defined as a third-class city by Utah statutory law. Hildale is governed by a mayor and four-member town council, each serving two-year elected terms.

The current Hildale mayor is George Lynn Cooke, and the Hildale town council is composed of Joseph I. Barlow, Dan C. Jessop, Joseph S. Jessop, and Harold Piene.

The Hildale town council and mayor meet publicly between 6:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. on Monday mornings that follow the second Saturday of each month. These public meetings are held in the Hildale Town Hall located on Hildale Road, Hildale, Utah. Town council meetings usually attract between eight and ten Hildale residents, but as many as forty residents may attend when an important issue is debated or decided.

Agendas of the town council meetings are neither published nor posted; occasionally, however, notices of budget meetings or other special meetings will be published in the Twin City Courier, a bi-monthly newspaper serving subscribers in both Hildale, Utah, and Colorado City, Arizona.

Other significant political figures include the following officers appointed by the Hildale town council and mayor:

1. Walter Steed, Justice of the Peace;
2. Fred S. Jessop, City Clerk;
3. Richard Allred, Treasurer; and
4. Leon Johnson, Town Marshall.

Colorado City, Arizona, is an unincorporated city lacking a sufficient number of residents to incorporate under Arizona state law. Since Colorado City is unincorporated, all political and legal matters are handled in Kingman, Arizona, the county seat for Mohave County.

Although no political office holders reside in Colorado

LEROY S. JOHNSON;  
RULON T. JEFFS;  
UNKNOWN SUBJECTS

City, the Mohave County School District #14 is composed of the following prominent Colorado City citizens: F. Lee Bistline, President; Ralph Johnson, Clerk; Daniel Barlow, Sr., Vice President; Alvin S. Barlow, Superintendent; and Lawrence Steed, Principal.

Prominent Colorado City business leaders include William Shapley, President of the General Cooperative Association Store; [redacted] a building contractor; and [redacted] [redacted] Manager of B & J Service Station.

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LEROY S. JOHNSON;  
RULON T. JEFFS;  
UNKNOWN SUBJECTS

LEGAL REQUIREMENTS FOR EVICTION

Landlord tenant relations in Hildale, Utah, are governed by Utah Code Annotated (UCA) Section 78-36-1, et seq.

If a landlord has terminated the tenancy by serving the proper notice, except when the tenancy is a term for years, the tenant unlawfully detains the property if he remains in possession. Specifically, the UCA deems the tenant guilty of unlawful detainer:

1. When he continues in possession after the expiration of the lease term, in all cases where real property is leased for a specified term or period, the tenancy shall be terminated without notice at the expiration of a specified term or period;
2. When, having leased real property for an indefinite time with monthly or other periodic rent reserved, he continues in possession past the end of any month or period where the tenant was served a Notice to Quit fifteen (15) days or more prior to the end of that month or period;
3. When he continues in possession after neglect or failure to perform any condition or covenant of the lease or agreement under which the property is held, and after notice in writing requiring in the alternative the performance of the conditions or covenant or the surrender of the property shall remain uncomplished for five (5) days after service thereof.

The UCA requires a Notice to Quit to be served in the following manner, either:

1. By delivering a copy to the tenant personally;
2. By sending a copy through registered or certified mail addressed to the tenant at his place of residence;
3. If he is absent from his place of residence, by leaving a copy with some person of suitable age and discretion and sending a copy through the mail addressed to the tenant at his place of residence or his place of business;

LEROY S. JOHNSON;  
RULON T. JEFFS;  
UNKNOWN SUBJECTS

4. If the place of business cannot be ascertained or if a person of suitable age or discretion cannot be found there, then by affixing a copy in a conspicuous place on the leased property and also delivering a copy to a person there residing, if the person can be found.

Once proper notice has been given and the tenant unlawfully detains the premises, the landlord may file a complaint for unlawful detainer in any circuit court in Utah. If the unlawful detainer occurred in Hildale, Utah, legal action would be initiated in the Ninth Circuit Court, St. George, Utah. St. George is the county seat for Washington County, the county which lies at the southwest corner of Utah.

Once an unlawful detainer judgment is entered in the landlord's favor, Beverly Bridges, Clerk of the Court, Hall of Justice, St. George, Utah, issues an order directing the Washington County Sheriff to evict the tenant.

The current Washington County Sheriff is Kenneth Campbell who commands eight deputy sheriffs. An eviction order for premises located in Hildale, Utah, would be executed by [redacted], a deputy sheriff stationed in Leeds, Utah, or [redacted], a deputy sheriff stationed in La Verkin, Utah.

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Landlord tenant relations in Colorado City, Arizona, are governed by Arizona Revised Statutes (ARS) Section 33-1301 et seq. and ARS Section 12-1171 et seq. Under Arizona statutory law, a tenant forcibly detains real property if, after termination of the tenancy, the tenant fails or refuses for five days after demand in writing to surrender possession to the landlord.

Upon the tenant's failure to surrender the premises, the landlord may file a forcible detainer complaint in either a Superior Court or a Justice of the Peace Court. The statutes provide for an expedited hearing addressing the issue of possession only and no other collateral issues, such as title.

LEROY S. JOHNSON;  
RULON T. JEFFS;  
UNKNOWN SUBJECTS

If judgment is entered in the landlord's favor, notice is served by a deputy county sheriff upon the tenant and he is informed that he has five days to vacate the premises. If the tenant fails to vacate within this time limit, the landlord can then apply for a writ of restitution from either a Superior Court or Justice of the Peace Court. The court then issues the writ directing the county sheriff to evict the tenant and remove his personal property from the premises.

For Colorado City, Arizona, forcible detainer actions and writs of restitution are handled by Judge McKay Heaton, Justice of the Peace for the Colorado Precinct, who resides in Moccasin, Arizona. The Colorado Precinct encompasses an area known as the Arizona Strip, an area bordered on the south by the Grand Canyon and on the north by the Utah-Arizona border.

The Mohave County Sheriff is Joe Bonzelet. [redacted]  
[redacted] is the Deputy Sheriff who would serve writs of restitution and evict tenants in Colorado City, Arizona. [redacted]  
also resides in Colorado City.

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# Memorandum



To : Director, FBI ( 44-102945 )

Date 9/23/85

From : SAC, PHOENIX ( 44B-1609 )

Subject : LEROY S. JOHNSON;  
RULON T. JEFFS;  
UNSUBS;

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[REDACTED] - VICTIM/COMPLAINANT;  
VICTIM/COMPLAINANT;  
ET AL  
CIVIL RIGHTS

This case will be delinquent.

Date of Bureau deadline: 9/23/85

Reason for the delinquency:

Investigation is continuing into the legal requirements for eviction based on Arizona state law.

Date ☐ airtel ☐ report ☐ letter ☒ LHM will reach the Bureau: 9/30/85

44-102945-

OCT 2 1985

OCT 3 1985

☐ No administrative action necessary.

1 - Bureau  
1 - Phoenix  
WRT:jlm (2)

FBI/DOJ

385

**Memorandum**



To : Director, FBI ( 44-102945 )

Date 8/8/85

From : SAC, PHOENIX ( 44B-1609 )

Subject : LEROY S. JOHNSON;  
RULAN T. JEFFS;  
UNSUBS;

[REDACTED] - VICTIM/COMPLAINANT;  
[REDACTED] VICTIM/COMPLAINANT;  
ET AL  
CIVIL RIGHTS

This case will be delinquent.

Date of Bureau deadline: 8/2/85

Reason for the delinquency: Investigation completed at Colorado City, Arizona, and Hildale, Utah. However, leads sent to have [REDACTED] interviewed at San Antonio, Texas, and [REDACTED] interviewed at Pinetop, Arizona.

Date ☐ airtel ☐ report ☐ letter ☒ LHM will reach the Bureau:

44-102945-  
AUG 22 1985  
9/23/85

1 - Bureau  
1 - Phoenix  
WRT:jlm No administrative action necessary.



FBI/DOJ

Assistant Attorney General  
CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION

Attn: BERT GLENN

10/10/ 85

Director, FBI (44-102945)

LEROI S. JOHNSON,  
RULON T. JEFFS,  
UNSUBS;

[REDACTED] - VICTIM/COMPLAINANT  
VICTIM/COMPLAINANT

ET AL;  
CIVIL RIGHTS, 00:PX (44B-1609)

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Field Office File Number PX 44B - 1609  
144 77 253  
DOJ File Number \_\_\_\_\_

Reference: DOJ MEMORANDUM DATED 6/25/85

Enclosed is one copy of:

- ☐ Also enclosed is an Internal Affairs Report
- ☐ A. This is the initial communication in this matter:

Type matter (Initial communication only)

- ☐ Brutality - Law Enforcement  
☐ Brutality - Nonlaw Enforcement  
☐ No Brutality - Law Enforcement  
☐ No Brutality - Nonlaw Enforcement  
☐ Racial Violence  
☐ ISS Matter  
☐ Death Case

☐ B. FBI Status-Pending

☐ C. FBI Status-Closed

☒ D. This covers the receipt of a complaint and no further action will be taken by the Federal Bureau of Investigation unless specifically requested by the Department of Justice.

☐ E. Due to the Nature of this matter, it should receive your expeditious attention. Please contact the Civil Rights Unit, FBIHQ, Attn: \_\_\_\_\_

AER: nmm

Enc (1)

MAIL ROOM ☒

FBI/DOJ

44-102945-9

11~ JAN 31 1986

Sent to  
Cunningham  
10/10/85



# Memorandum



## FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Subject

Notice of File Closing  
CIVIL RIGHTS MATTER

Date

07 NOV 1986

To

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

From

WBR/STB  
Mr. Bradford Reynolds  
Assistant Attorney General  
Civil Rights Division

Reference is made to your field office file captioned as  
on the attached closing form and numbered Salt Lake City, Utah 44B-674.  
This matter has been closed as of the date on the attached form.

OO: PX 44B-11609  
AO: SU 44B-674

V-3  
DEC 20 1986

44-102945-10

NOV 1986

2-11609  
1enc to SAC, Salt Lake City

21 7/87

333

52 APR 13 1988

07 NOV 1986

144-77-253

*UT*  
*AZ* { *Encl* **Criminal** **①**  
Leroy S. Johnson; Rulon T. Jeffs; and other Unknown **①**  
Subjects; [redacted] - Victim/Complainant; [redacted] -  
Victim/Complainant; [redacted] - Victim/Complainant;  
[redacted] - Victim/Complainant; [redacted] - Victim/  
Complainant; [redacted] - Victim/Complainant;  
Civil Rights

This matter involves evictions from property and other incidents since 1982 in the fundamentalist Mormon communities of Hildale, Utah, and Colorado City, Arizona. The complainants, several residents who have fallen out of favor with the church's ruling hierarchy, met with Mr. Brent Ward, the United States Attorney in Salt Lake City, in January 1985, delivering numerous newsclippings, affidavits, and other documents. These materials described incidents in which long standing residents had been evicted from their residences on church owned property. They also describe the removal of beneficiaries' names from trust documents. The FBI investigated, at Mr. Ward's request. It now appears that the actions do not constitute prosecutable federal criminal civil rights violations.

Hildale, Utah, and Colorado City, Arizona, are fundamentalist, polygamous, Mormon communities which straddle the state line in southwestern Utah and Northwestern Arizona. Nearly all the land in these towns is owned by a trust, known as the United

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44-102945-10

Effort Trust. The Trust assigns lots to individuals to build and live on. This trust is controlled and administered by the church hierarchy. At the head of the church is the prophet, 47 year old Leroy Johnson, known to the people as "Uncle Roy." His decrees are unquestioned. He determines when and to whom lots are assigned. Persons may remain as long as they are "faithful" and may be summarily evicted. The church has strict conservative rules regarding dress, association, activities and support of the church.

*Uncle Roy Johnson B. Approx 1890*

The complainants raised several incidents in the material they provided. First, several individuals were evicted from the lots they were assigned, had built on, and had lived on for several years. Second, a number of individual residents who had previously been listed as named beneficiaries of the Trust were omitted by a Trust amendment filed in 1983. Interviews with the victims of the three primary evictions indicate that the evictions were not forceful or were not cases of religious discrimination. In the first alleged "eviction", [ ] voluntarily left his home in Colorado City in March, 1983, to take a job in another location. He was not pressured by religious leaders to do so. In the second eviction, [ ] stated that when [ ] returned to Colorado City from a trip to northern Utah in October, 1982, the lock on [ ] home had been changed and several men were sleeping inside in sleeping bags. [ ] stated that [ ] received an eviction notice earlier. [ ] said [ ] heard that the religious leaders suspected [ ] was removing kitchen cabinets from [ ] home and had [ ] evicted. In the third eviction, [ ] was served a "Notice to Vacate" by a local deputy sheriff on August 10, 1983. The notice was signed by Leroy Johnson. [ ] left his house without challenging the order and without incident. He had been critical of the church during his final years of residence and had permitted his oldest daughter to date men, violating a long standing rule of the church.

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A prerequisite to prosecute for violation of housing rights is that the eviction occur because of religion. It seems that these evictions occurred because the church leadership was unhappy with certain activities of these persons, actions which were inconsistent with the principles of the church. This is not a denial of housing because of the victims' religion per se, but rather because the victims were supposedly unfaithful to the church's requirements. This could arguably establish a

religious-based discrimination, yet the church leaders could point to specific incidents as underlying the evictions. In addition, it appears that the Trust, as the land owner, has all legal rights of landlords including the right to evict these tenants, although not for improper purposes.

A second statutory factor, in the absence of state action, is the requirement that the eviction be accomplished by force or threat of force. This is required under 42 U.S.C. §3631. Because religious discrimination is involved, a Section 241 conspiracy prosecution would also require a showing of force or threat of force. No force exists in the [ ] eviction. Although [ ] house was occupied when [ ] returned, [ ] had received an eviction notice. Further, it appears there is little evidence of a religious basis for [ ] eviction. Finally, it does not appear significant that the deputy sheriff served the notice to [ ] in that it was a private notice and evoked no official power.

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In summary, the [ ] eviction shows minimal evidence of religious discrimination and no evidence of force. The [ ] eviction indicates occupancy in [ ] absence after notice of eviction and no articulable evidence of religious discrimination. [ ] departure was voluntary. The other incidents in the materials, including the change in named beneficiaries, do not involve federally protected rights and do not fall within federal civil rights jurisdiction. The matters thus do not present prosecutable federal criminal civil rights violations. I recommend that this case be closed. United States Attorney Brent Ward (D. Utah) and United States Attorney Stephen M. McNamee (D. Arizona) concur.